

CONAN THE
BARBARIAN

MARVEL COMICS GROUP

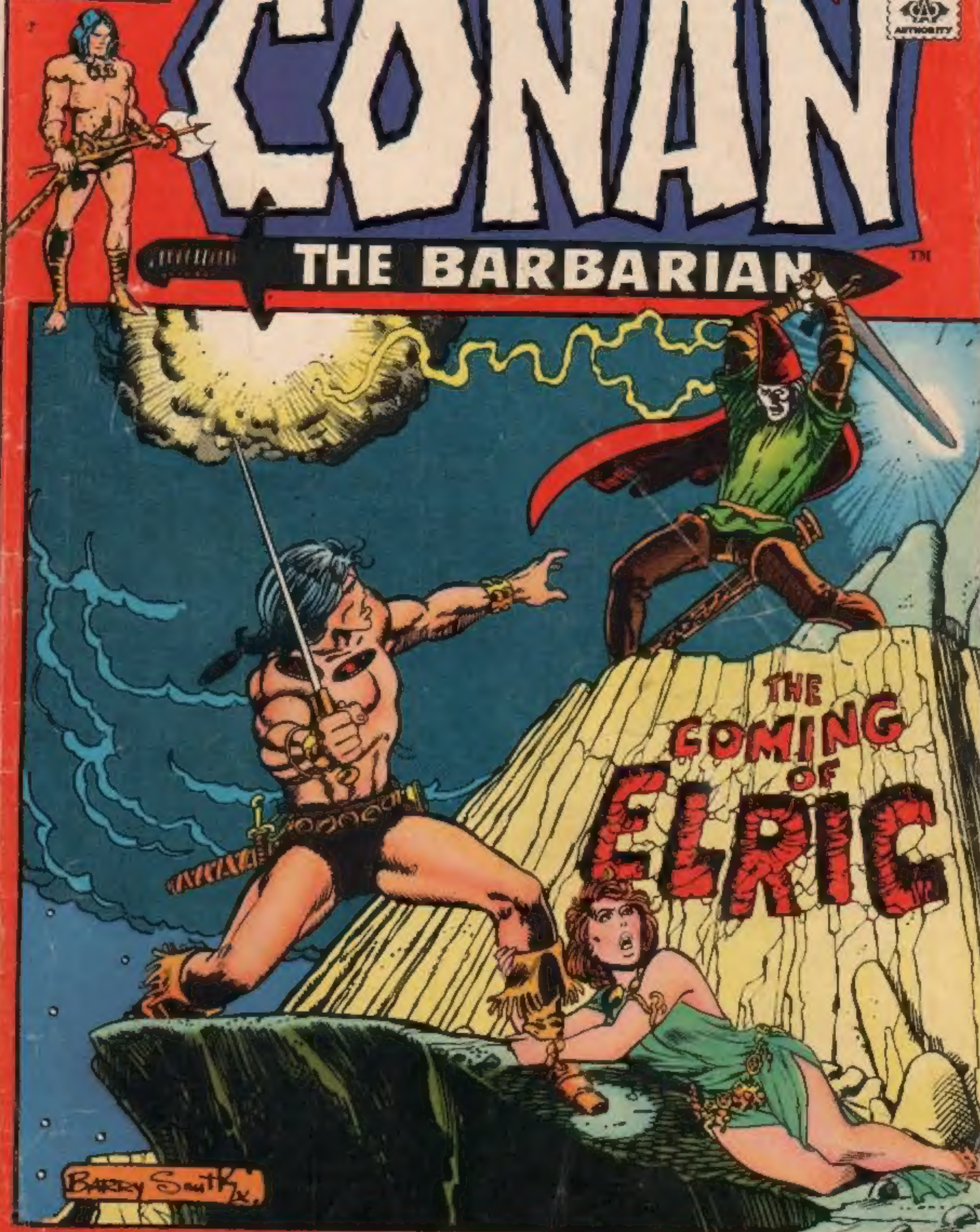
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APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

CONAN

THE BARBARIAN



A SWORD CALLED...STORMBRINGER!

CONAN THE BARBARIAN!

A SWORD CALLED STORMBRINGER!

THE GRASSLANDS OF
ROCKY KOTH ARE
GREEN... EVEN IN
THE GLOW OF THE
FAST-DAWNING
SUN...

YET, THEY'LL RUN RED THIS DAY...
RED WITH THE LIFEBLOOD OF A
BASE-SLAIN MAIDEN... IF WILDLY
WAVING SCIMITARS BRING DOWN
THEIR AUBURN-HAIRED PREY...

AFTER HER!
SHE IS ONE OF
THOSE WE
SEEK!

SHE MUST
DIE 'NEATH
THE SWORDS
OF CHAOS!

STORY PLOTTED BY: MICHAEL MOORCOCK (CREATOR OF
ELRIC OF MELNIBONÉ) AND
JAMES CANTWORN

FEATURING THE
EPIC HERO
CREATED BY:
ROBERT E.
HOWARD

★
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SAL BUSCEMA-EMBELLISHER
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HO, DOGS!

DOES IT TAKE THE FOUR OF YOU, TO SLAY ONE HELPLESS FEMALE?

AWAY, BARBARIAN-- OR WE'LL DEAL WITH YOU, AS WELL.

AYE. THIS DAY'S DEED IS NO AFFAIR OF YOURS.



THEN LET'S SAY I *MAKE* IT MINE--

--BECAUSE I LIKE THE TURN OF THE WENCH'S LEG!



CROM'S BONES! YOU GIVE NO CRIES OF PAIN-- AND YOUR BLOOD COMES BLACK AND CHURLISH.

WHAT MANNER OF MEN CAN YOU BE?

OR ARE YOU MEN AT ALL?



AND NOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THE HALF-SLOW OF DAWN, THE CIMMERIAN SEES CLEARLY THE DEVILISH MOUNTS THE DARK MEN RIDE...

...SPES AWKWARD BEAKS, AND MONSTROUS, CRIMSON MAWS...

AND A SUPERSTITIOUS DREAD FILLS HIS BARBARIAN HEART, STAYS HIS HAND...



...LONG ENOUGH FOR A SWORD TO LIGHTLY TOUCH...

...OH, SO VERY LIGHTLY...



...YET TO TERRIFYING EFFECT!

HE IS DOWN!

NOR SHALL HE EVER RISE AGAIN, THIS SIDE OF HELL.

BUT HOLD--DO YOU NOT HEAR, BROTHERS?

THE BEATING OF WINGS-- THE CLACKING OF TALONS--



WHAT MATTERS IT? FIRST THE INTRUDER DIES, AND THEN--

AIEEE! LOOK ABOVE! GREAT WHITE EAGLES--SHOOPING FROM OUT THE SUN ITSELF--!

RAISE SWORDS, BROTHERS--OR PERISH!



YET BLADES, EVEN HERB-DIPPED ONES, FARE BADLY AGAINST GHOST-WHITE BEAKS WHICH REND AND SLASH...

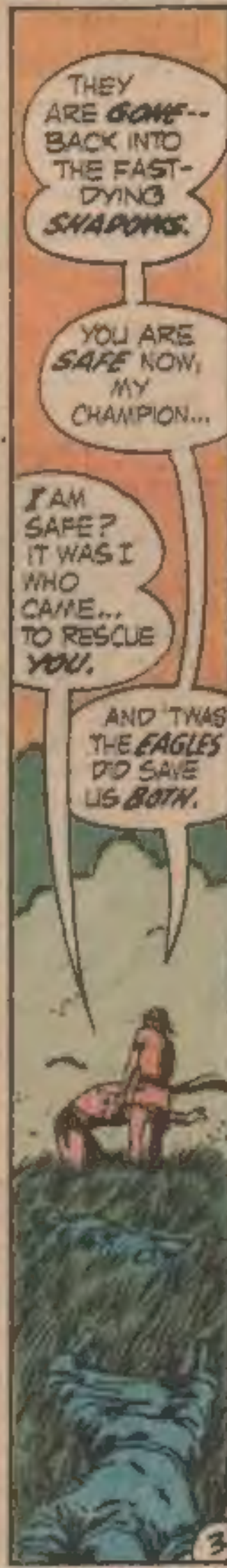


--TILL, MOMENTS LATER, THREE COWLED HORSE-MEN TURN AND FLEE, LEAVING BEHIND NAUGHT BUT BLACK-BLOODED CORPSES--

--AND A SWIFT-HURLED CURSE!

AH, NOW YOU TWO SHALL WISH YOU HAD DIED BY OUR HAND...

FOR, CRUEL AND CERTAIN WILL BE THE VENGEANCE OF KIMBARS!



THEY ARE GONE-- BACK INTO THE FAST-DYING SHADOWS.

YOU ARE SAFE NOW, MY CHAMPION...

I AM SAFE? IT WAS I WHO CAME... TO RESCUE YOU.

AND 'T WAS THE EAGLES DO SAVE US BOTH.

8 MM MOTION PICTURE PROJECTOR COLOR OR BLACK & WHITE

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ONLY Complete

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Rush me your U.S. coin catalog. I enclose \$1 which is refundable if I am not completely satisfied:

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ZUKALA! THAT
DEVIL-DOG VOWED
REVENGE ON ME,
WHEN LAST OUR
PATHS CROSSED.

AND NOW
HE'S SENT
YOU OUT
TO--

NO, CONAN. THAT'S
ALL *PAST* NOW--YOU
MUST BELIEVE ME.

HE *DID*
FORESEE YOUR
COMING, AND
SENT ME FORTH
TO *MEET*
YOU...

THERE WAS *NO* TREACHERY
IN HIS HEART... NO, NOR
KNOWLEDGE OF THE
ATTACKING OF THE *HOODED ONES*.



PLEASE... YOU
MUST *COME*
WITH ME, TO
OUR DWEL-
LING-
PLACE.

ALL
RIGHT,
WOMAN...
I'LL COME...



BUT I'LL KEEP MY
SWORD AT THE READY.



NO, DAUGHTER!
I TRUST MY HEAVEN-
SENT *EAGLES*
ARRIVED IN TIME
TO AID YOU?

AYE, FATHER,
THEY DID THEIR
TASK, AND NOT
A *MOMENT*
TOO SOON.



THAT...
IS
ZUKALA?

WHERE
IS THE
FIERY
MASK HE
ONCE WORE?
THE TRAPPINGS
OF *POWER*?



GREETINGS,
CUMMERIAN...
AND *WELCOME*
TO THIS
ABODE WE
HAVE RECLAIMED
FROM THE
WILDER-
NESS.

WHAT
TRICKERY
IS THIS?
DO YOU
MOCK
ME,
GIRL?

ZUKALA
WAS
MASTER
OF MUCH
OF
ZAMORA.

YET,
THIS
FRAIL
OLD
MAN--



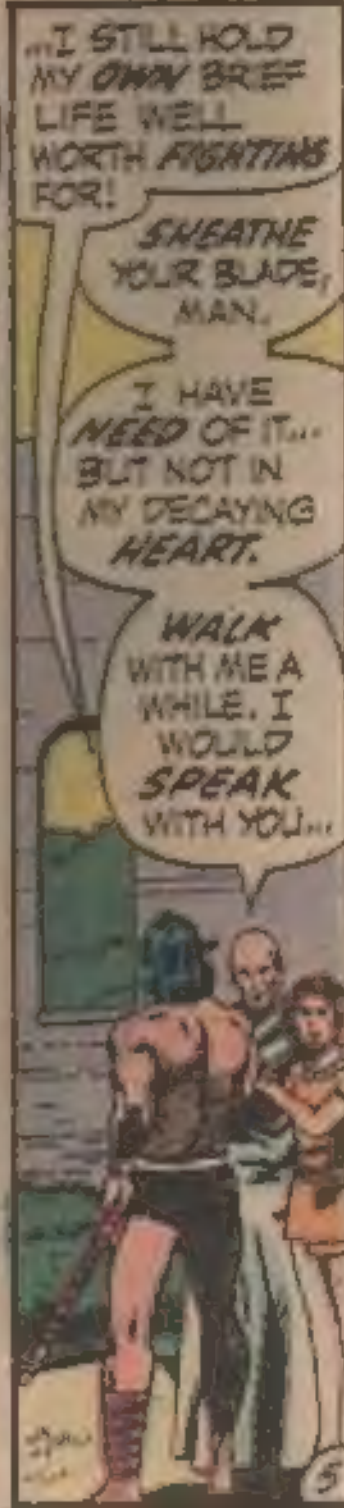
...IS YOUR *OWN*
CREATION,
BARBARIAN.
FOR, WHEN YOUR
SWIFT SWORDHAND
RENT MY MAGE-MASK,
IT STOLE MUCH OF MY
WIZARDRY... AND ALL
OF MY PRECARIOUSLY-
HELD *YOUTH*.

I SHALL *DIE* ERE
LONG... THE DEATH I ONCE
THOUGHT COULD NEVER *TOUCH* ME.



THE *VOICE*
IS THE SAME...
YET TINGED
WITH *BITTER-
NESS*.

IF YOU
HAVE LURED
ME HERE
FOR VENGEANCE,
I *WARN* YOU,
MAGICIAN...

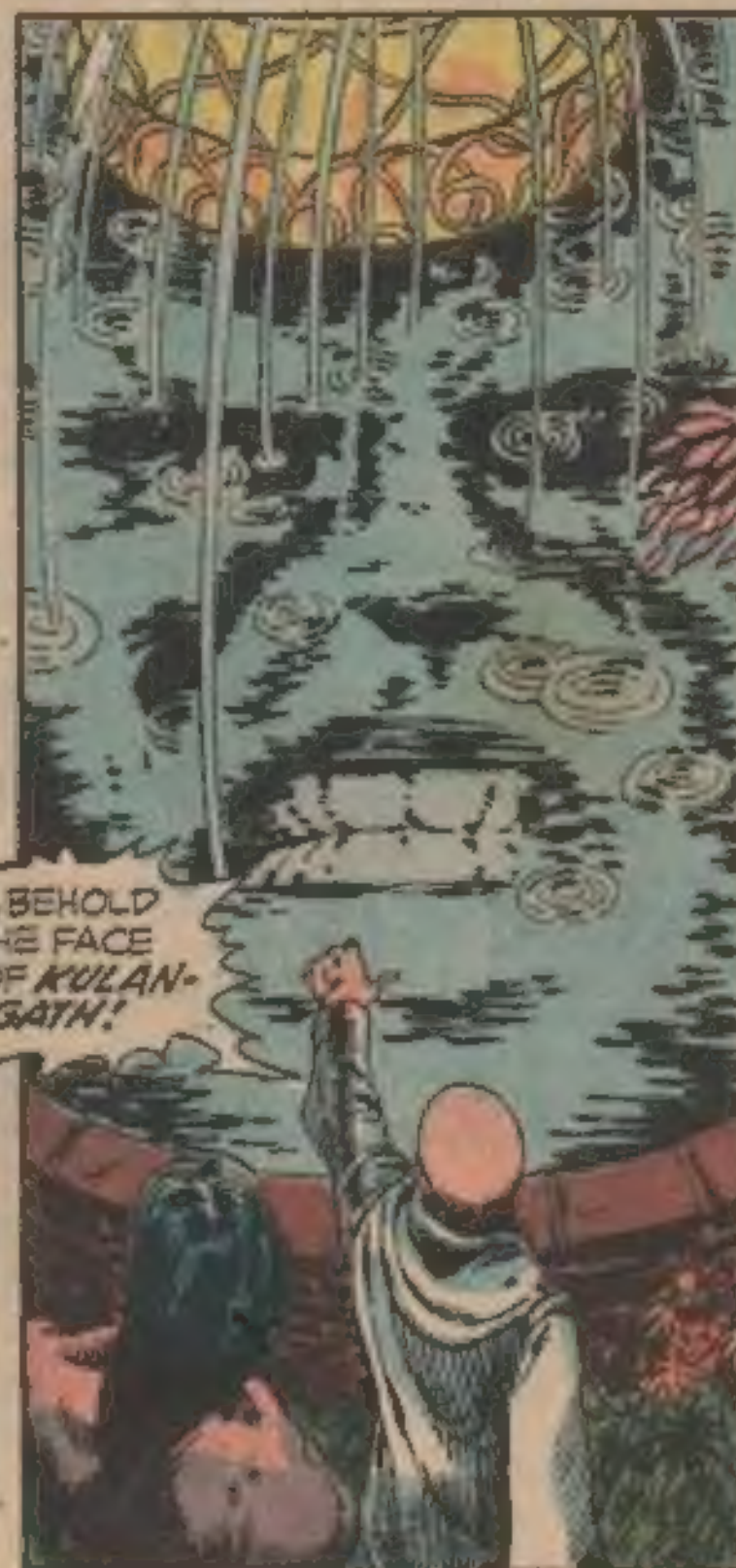


...I STILL HOLD
MY *OWN* BREEF
LIFE WELL
WORTH *FIGHTING*
FOR!

SNEATHE
YOUR BLADE,
MAN.

I HAVE
NEED OF IT...
BUT NOT IN
MY DECAYING
HEART.

WALK
WITH ME A
WHILE. I
WOULD
SPEAK
WITH YOU...



NOW—YOURS FROM COLUMBIA—

Any 14 of these

if you join now and agree to buy ten more records during the coming two years



206573



205799



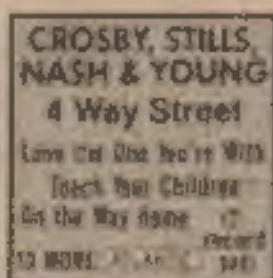
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20552



201905



204347/204354



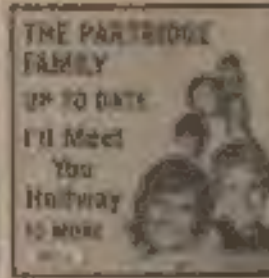
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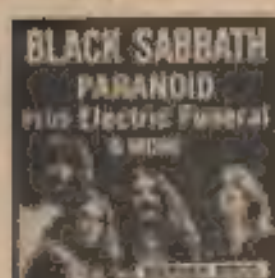
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196741



202135



200014



203448



203554



188367



201806



191809



198911



204438



203372



191742



200295



198465



186809



201723



203521



205757



170357



201335



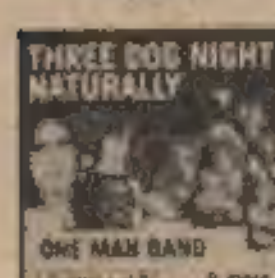
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201699



198770



196709



202127



204305



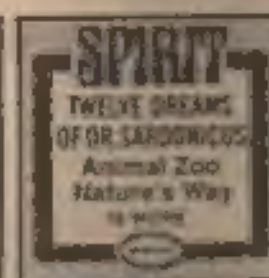
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181909



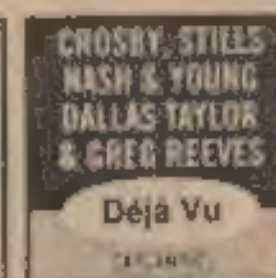
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197939



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188060



186106



202390



196725

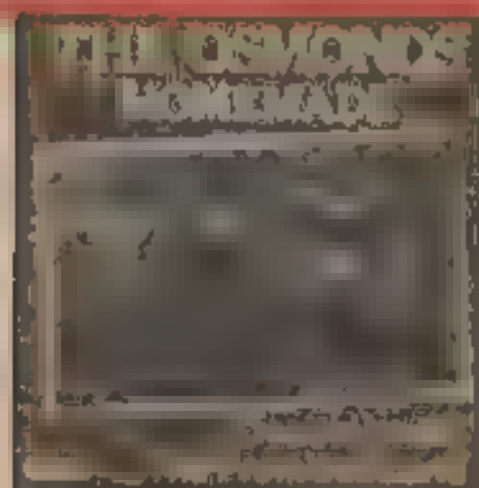


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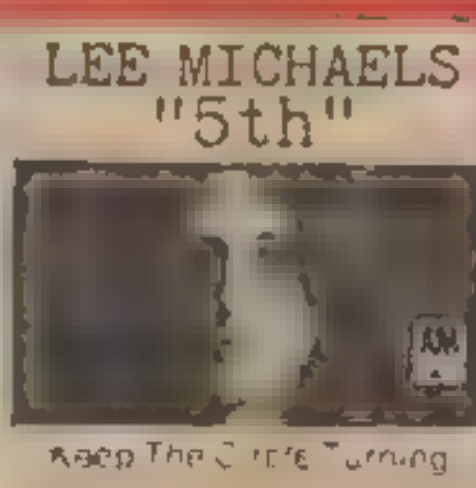
AT TRULY GREAT SAVINGS...

hit records FOR ONLY \$2⁸⁶

(you will have up to 300 records a month to choose from)



206409



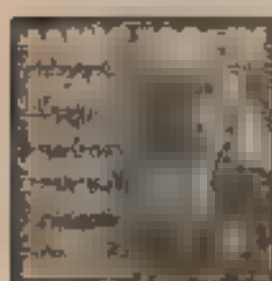
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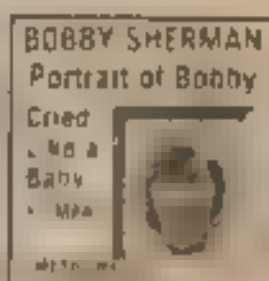
199133 2 records count as 1



203919



198986



204321



196246



203539



195727



196717



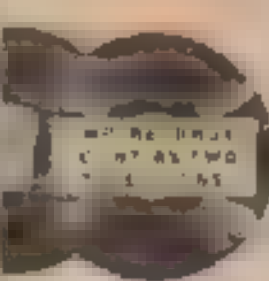
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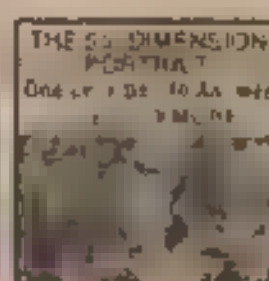
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191825



194563



191205



202473

HERE'S OUR BEST OFFER EVER! Join right now and get ANY 14 of these records for only \$2⁸⁶! And all you have to do is agree to buy as few as ten records (at the regular Club price) during the coming two years. That's right—two full years in which to buy your ten records. After doing so you'll have acquired 24 records—at practically a 50% saving off regular Club prices.

AS A MEMBER you will receive every four weeks a copy of the Club's exciting music magazine. Each issue describes the regular selection for each musical interest and almost 100 other records. Hit albums from every field of music from scores of record labels.

HOW TO ORDER If you do not want any record in any month, just let us know by returning the selection card by the date specified. Or you may use the card to order any of the records offered. If you want only the regular selection for your musical interest, you need do nothing. It will be shipped to you automatically. And from time to time, the Club will send some special albums which you may accept by returning the specially dated form always provided or accept by doing nothing.

RECORDS SENT ON CREDIT Upon enrollment, the Club will open a charge account in your name. Records will be mailed and billed to you at the regular Club price of \$4.98 or \$5.98 (occasional special albums somewhat higher), plus a mailing and handling charge.

FANTASTIC BONUS PLAN As soon as you complete your enrollment agreement, you may cancel membership when ever you wish. If you continue, you will automatically become eligible for the Club's bonus plan, which entitles you to one record of your choice free (plus 25¢ for mailing and handling) for every one you buy thereafter! So you'll continue to save about 50% of your record dollars.

JUST MAIL THE COUPON together with your check or money order for only \$2⁸⁶, as payment for your first 14 records. Also be sure to indicate the type of music in which you are mainly interested. Act now!

COLUMBIA RECORD CLUB, Terre Haute, Indiana 47608

Please accept my membership. I've enclosed check or money order for \$2⁸⁶ as payment for the 14 records indicated below. I agree to buy as few as ten records at Club prices during the coming two years, and may cancel membership at any time the offer still continues to be eligible or your bonus plan.

Send these 14 records to me enclosed the above money order for \$2⁸⁶

All records will be described in advance in the Magazine sent every four weeks. If I do not want any record, I return the selection card by the date specified. Or you use the card to order any record I want. If I want only the regular selection for my musical interest, I need do nothing. It will be sent automatically. From time to time, I'll be offered special albums which I may accept or decline by using the dated form provided.

MY MAIN MUSICAL INTEREST IS (check one only):

- ☐ Easy Listening ☐ Young Sounds ☐ Jazz
☐ Country ☐ Broadway & Hollywood ☐ Classical

Mr. Miss Mrs. ☐ Please print name First Name Surname Last Name

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Do you have a telephone? (check one) ☐ YES ☐ NO

Also check address for future mailings ☐ YES ☐ NO

(BS-2) 484

Columbia House

1111 14th Street, N.W.

TERALI, THE GREEN
EMPRESS... DAUGHTER OF
THE KING IN A WORLD CALLED
MELNIBONE, AND A SHE-
DEMON SUMMONED FROM
THIS MORTAL PLANE.



A FEARFUL SORCERESS IN
HER OWN RIGHT IN THAT
FAR-OFF, LONG-AGO WORLD.

STILL, EVEN SHE FELT AT LAST BEFORE
THE GATHERED SPELLS OF HER MANY
MAGIC-DEALING
FOEMEN...



AND SEALED HER IN A
DARK, DARK TOMB...

THERE, IN HER
INCREDIBLY ANCIENT
CITY YAGALA.



YET SUCH WAS
HER EYES' DREAD OF
TERALI THAT
THEY DARED
NOT LET HER
THESE
CAPTIVE REMAIN
IN MELNIBONE



NAY THEY PROJECTED IT HITHER INTO
THIS WORLD THEY TERMED THE HYBORIAN...
AND CIRCLED IT ROUND ABOUT WITH
MAGICAL BARRIERS...

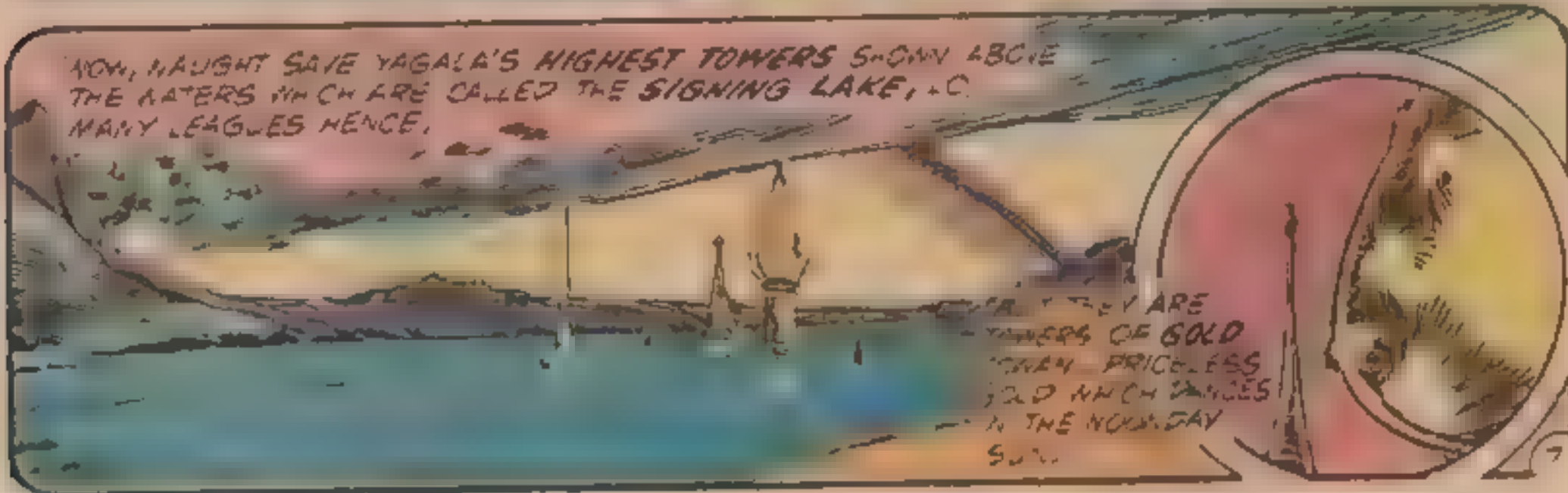
IT WAS EVEN THAT ENOUGH TO SOOTHE HER
CRAVEN-HEARTED BREASTS



FOR AS A FINAL
PRIZE'S ACT, THEY
BROUGHT DOWN
THE RAINS,
SHELLING FLOODS
TO DRENCH AND
DROWN THE
CITY...

THE
EMERALD TOMB,
IN THE REAR'S
HEATH'S
SMALL CHAMBERS.

NOW, NAUGHT SAVE YAGALA'S HIGHEST TOWERS SHOWN ABOVE
THE WATERS WHICH ARE CALLED THE SIGNING LAKE, & C.
MANY LEAGUES HENCE.



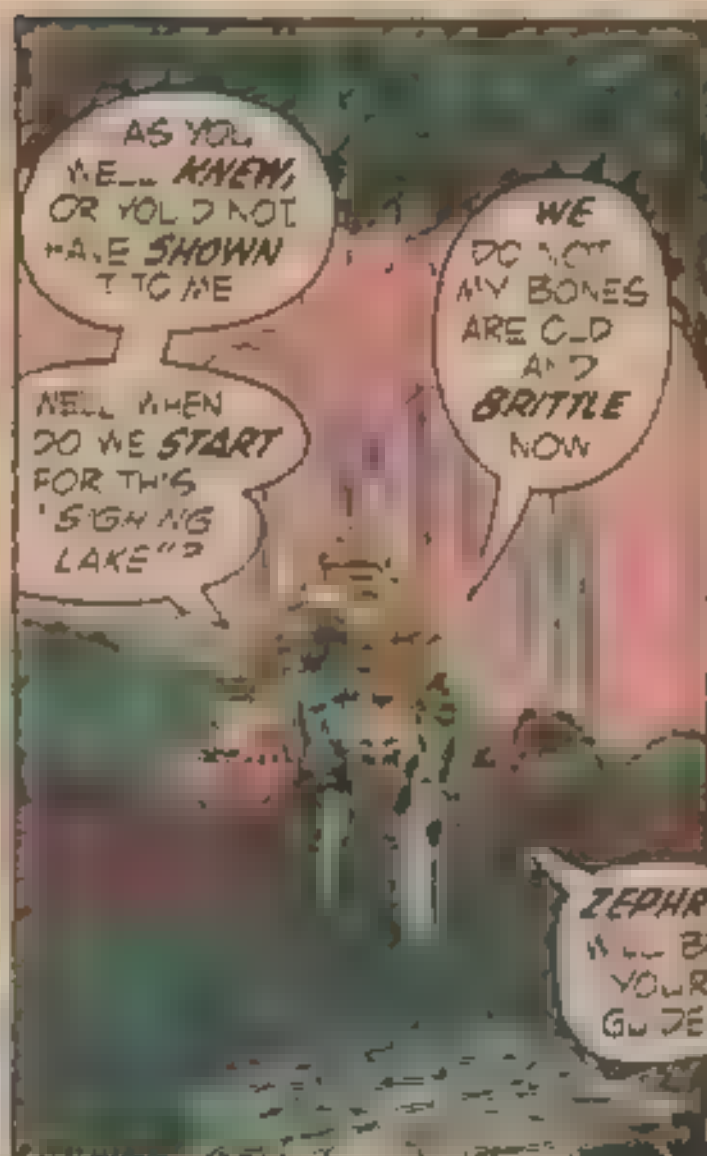
THEY ARE
TOWERS OF GOLD
WHICH PRICELESS
OLD MACHINERY
IN THE NOW-DAY
SUN.



GOLD WHICH IS YOURS FOR THE TAKING CONAN, & YOU'LL BUT AID ME IN MY PRESENT ENTERPRISE.

I'M NO WORLD-SAVER, MAGE, AND I'VE NO TASTE FOR SORCERY...

YET, THE SIGHT OF SO MUCH GOLD IS TEMPTING NEED.

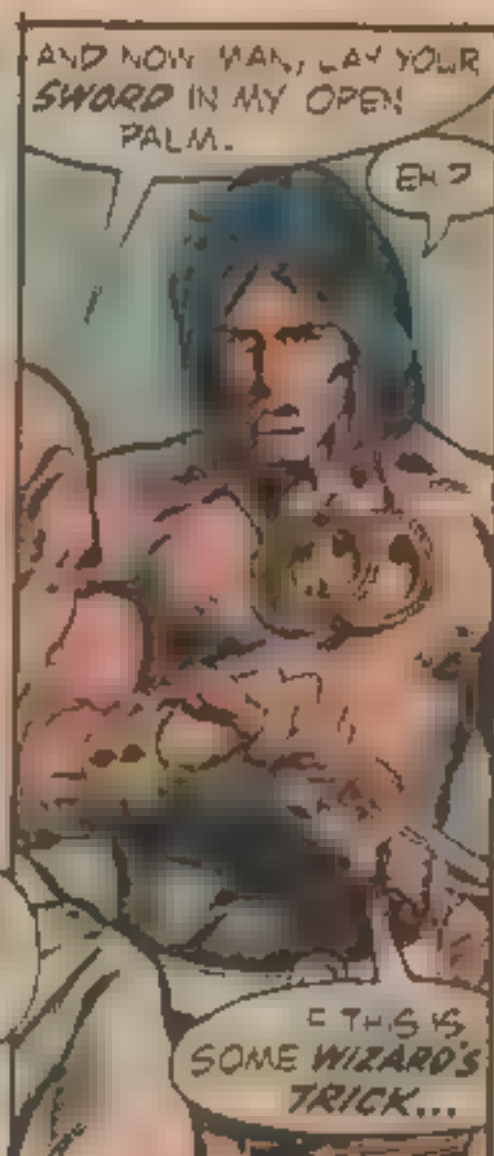


AS YOU WEL... KNEW, OR YOU'D NOT HAVE SHOWN IT TO ME

WELL WHEN DO WE START FOR THIS "SIGNING LAKE"?

WE DO NOT MY BONES ARE OLD AND BRITTLE NOW

ZEPHRA WILL BE YOUR GUIDE



AND NOW MAN, LAY YOUR SWORD IN MY OPEN PALM.

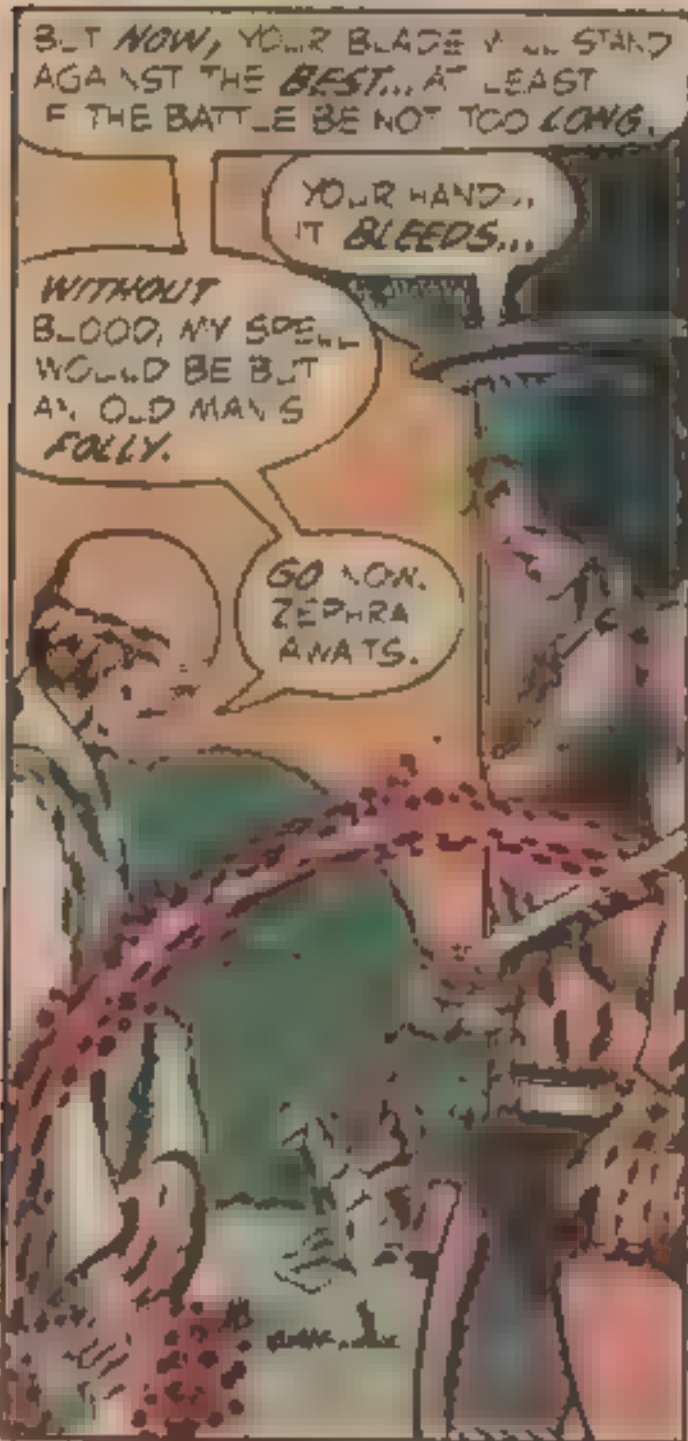
END

THIS IS SOME WIZARD'S TRICK...



EVER THE SNEAKY BARBARIAN, EH CONAN?

FEAR NOT 'TIS ONLY THAT THE FOES YOU GO TO MEET MAY NOT SUCCEED TO COLD STEEL ALONE.



BUT NOW, YOUR BLADE WILL STAND AGAINST THE BEST... AT LEAST IF THE BATTLE BE NOT TOO LONG.

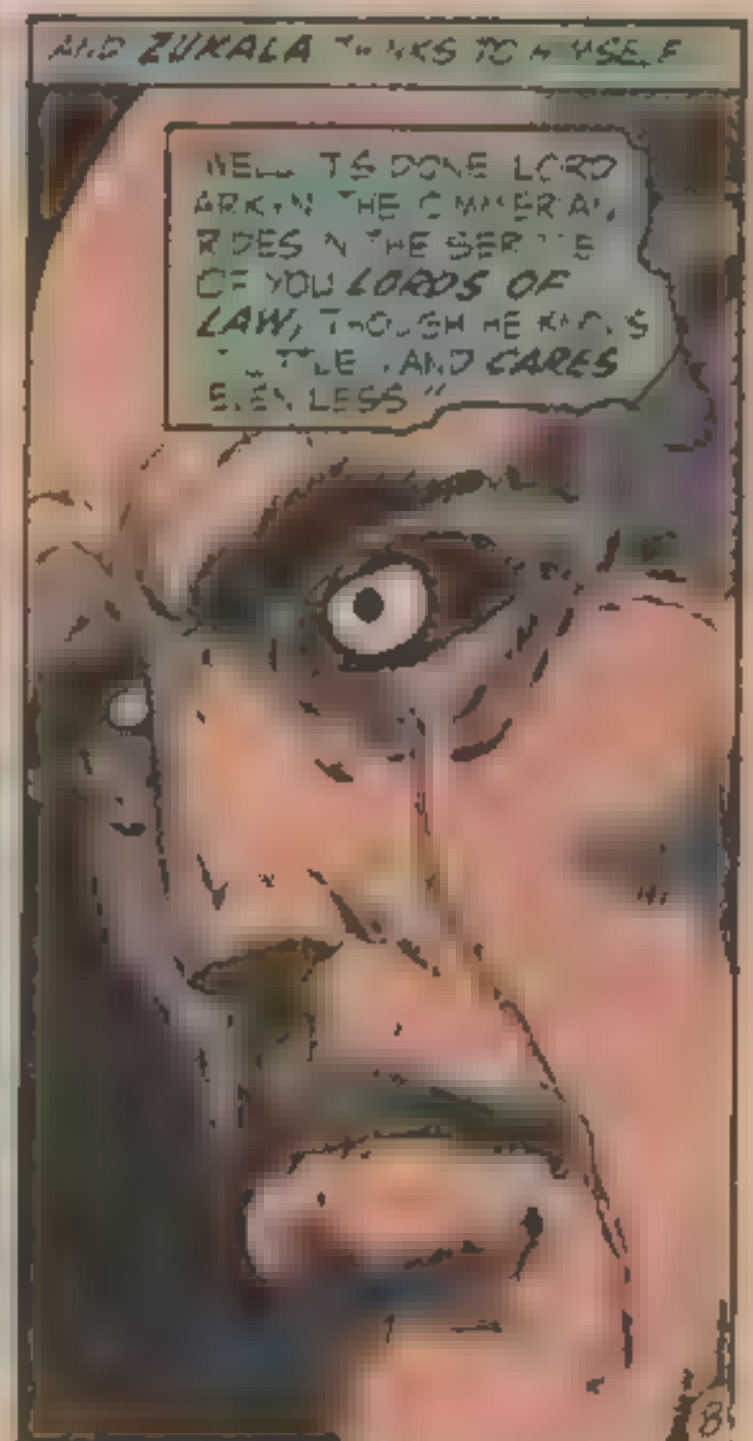
YOUR HAND... IT BLEEDS...

WITHOUT BLOOD, MY SPELL WOULD BE BUT AN OLD MAN'S FOLLY.

GO NOW. ZEPHRA ANATS.



THIS AS THE SUN-GOD SPEEDS HIS BLAZING CHARIOT ON TOWARD THE NOON-DAY ZENITH TWO GRIM-FACED FARRIES GALLOP OUT THRU TIME-WORN GATES...



AND ZUKALA THANKS TO HIMSELF

WELL 'TIS DONE LORD ARKIN THE CHAMBERLAIN RIDES IN THE SERVICE OF YOU LORDS OF LAW, THOUGH HE KNOWS LITTLE AND CARES EVEN LESS

THE ANSWER COMES ON
SOFT-WHISPERING WINDS.

"YOU HAVE DONE
WELL, ZUKALA. SO
WE FIGHT GREATER
ENEMIES THAN KULAN-
GATH OR EVEN
DREAD TERNALI..

"BEHIND THEM STANDS
XIOMBARG, QUEEN OF THE
CHAOS SWORDS. SHE
TRUMPHS. TWO WORLDS
PLUNGE INTO DEMON-RAINED
DARKNESS."

BUT MY DAUGHTER, LORD ARKYN
WHAT OF MY ZEPHRA? WILL SHE
BE SAFE?"

THIS TIME, NOW-
EVER, THERE IS NO
REPLY. AND MURMURING
BREEZES DIE
A-BORNING

"XIOMBARG!" THINKS ZUKALA
'PERHAPS BY SPYING UPON HER,
I CAN LEARN WHAT SHE PLANS..'

AND SO MURMURING
WINDS FALL DROPS
OF PRICELESS LIFE-
BLOOD INTO THE
RIVER, AS RAINFALL...

WHERE AN IMAGE
FORMS. A VISION OF
IMMORTAL XIOMBARG,
IN SOME DISTANT
NETHERWORLD PALACE,
SURROUNDED BY HER
UNHUMAN COURTIER...

WHAT? IS THE
QUEEN OF THE CHAOS
SWORDS TO BE
THWARTED BY SOME
LOUTISH BARBARIAN?

NAY A
THOUSAND
TIMES..
NAY.

IT IS WRITTEN IN THE
SKY-TREADING
STARS THAT HYBORIA
AND MELNIBONE
BOTH MUST FALL
TO ME.

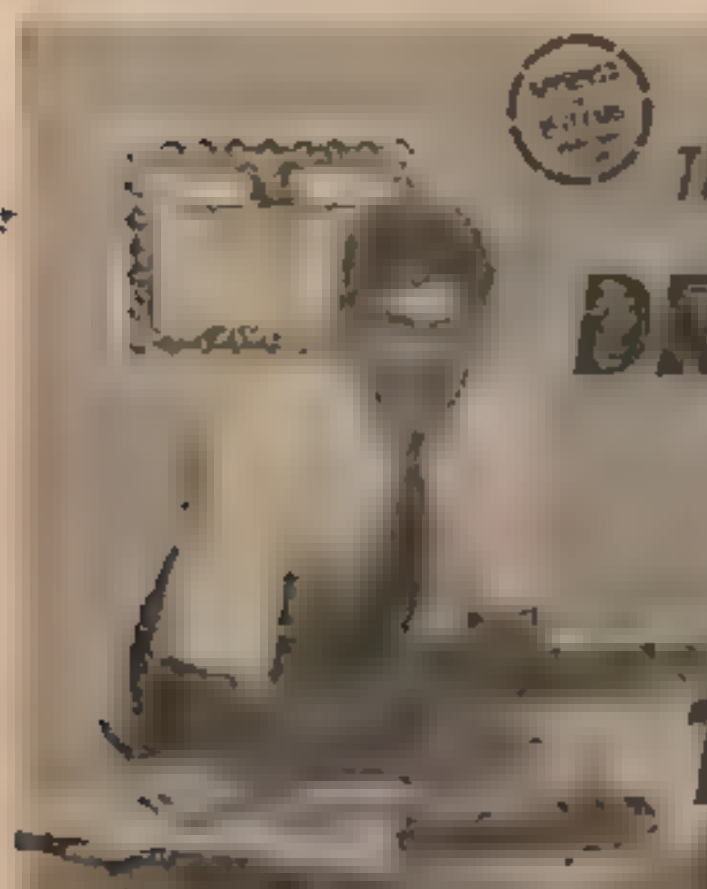
AND,
CONQUER
THEM I
SHALL...
OR ELSE
DESTROY
THEM!

THIS TIME PRINCE
GAYNOR, YOU
YOURSELF SHALL AND
LEAD THE UN-
CHAOS SPEAKABLE
PACK. YOUR PUNISH-
MENT IF YOU
FALL ME
AS DO
THE HOOD-
ED ONES.

I SHALL
NOT FALL,
O QUEEN

EVEN THE LORDS
OF LAW SHALL NOT
SAVE THIS BARBARIAN
FROM MY SWORD!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE



THESE 3 BIG DRAFTING KITS* GIVEN TO YOU!

...when you train at home with NASD for a

HIGH PAY JOB IN DRAFTING!

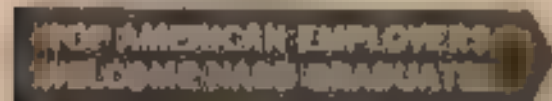


*Free...
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 2. Drafting Aptitude Test
 3. Drafting Instrument



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"Steadily growing employer requirements, were accompanied by marked reductions in the supply of draftsmen available."



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- WESTINGHOUSE
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EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

FLUOR

Big Promotion

Take Your Pick of 2 EXCITING FIELDS!

1 Architectural Drafting

Today's population explosion guarantees boom in building of homes, churches, schools, factories, office buildings & warehouses is just starting. Thousands Architectural Draftsmen needed NOW because drawings must be made of every part of every building before ground can be broken.

2 Mechanical Drafting

skyrocketing U.S. mass production requires millions of drawings & thousands of Mechanical Draftsmen at a very low pay. Drawings must be made of every PART of every product used in U.S. (as well as of the machines that make these parts) before production can be started.

HEF'S NEW 5 JOINTS SAY

Earning \$8.00 Monthly

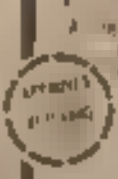
Big Promotion

Gets 50% Raise

W.R. New York

No Layoffs

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Registered Manager

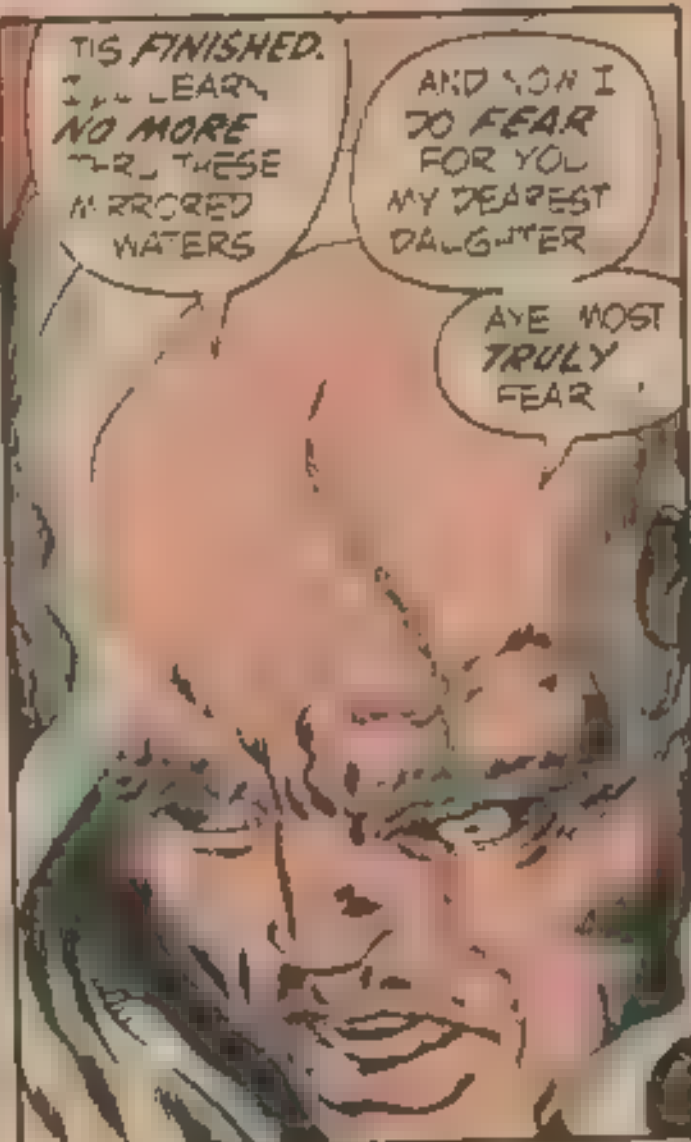
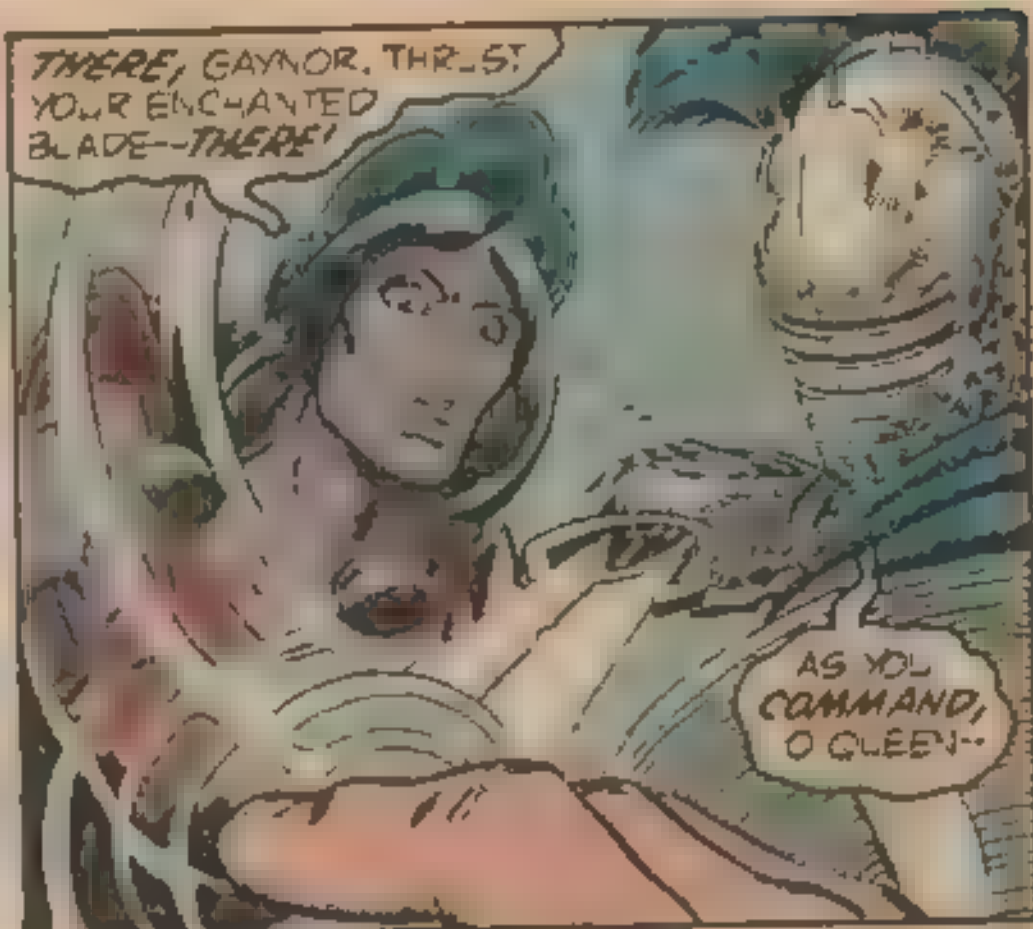
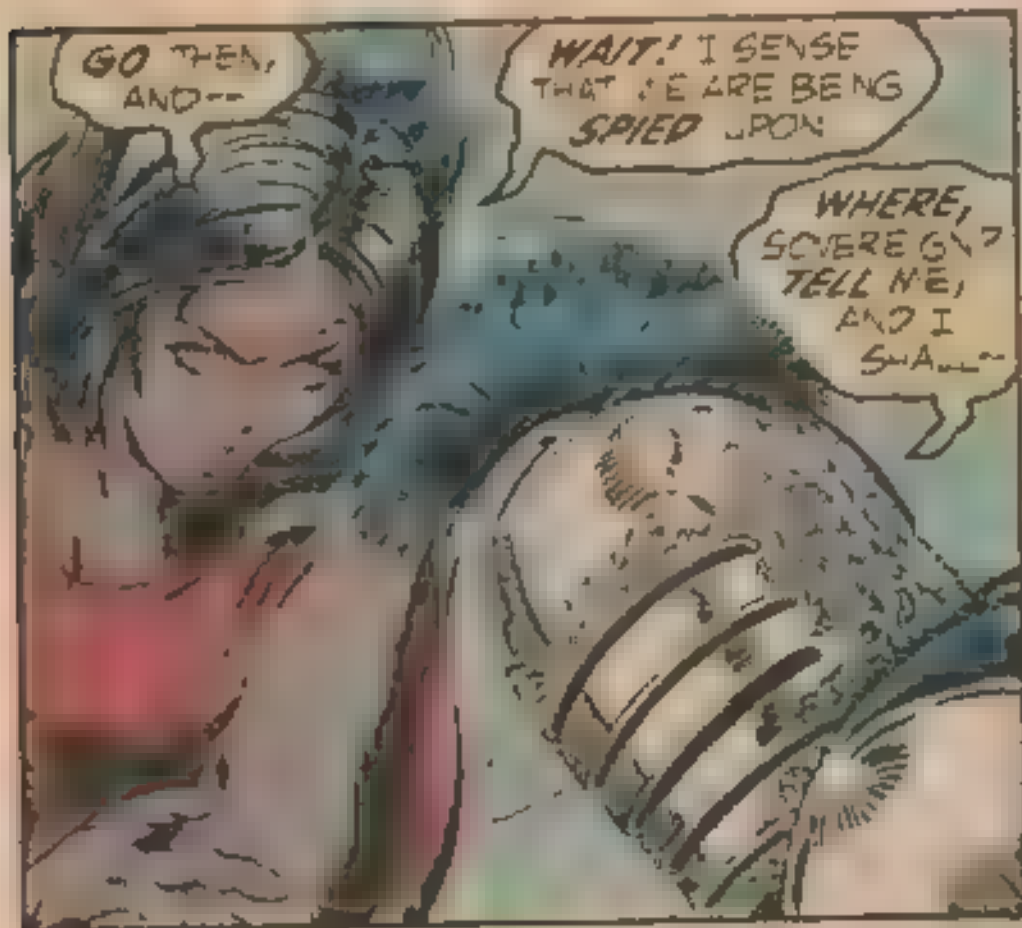
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IN FACT,
IT--
LOOK!

THERE--
BEHIND
US--



I SEE HIM,
CONAN. A DEMONIC
FIGURE--

--ASTRIDE A
NIGHT-BLACK
CHARGER,
AND APPEARING
AMID A FLASH
OF BLINDING
LIGHT!

HALT, STRANGER

STAY
WHERE YOU
ARE TILL
WE GIVE
YOU
LEAVE.

AND ARE
YOU--AND
WHENCE DO
YOU COME?

IF THE RIDER DOES NOT STOP AND CONAN
BEHOLDS HIS MILK-WHITE FACE AND HIS EYES
THE COLOR OF BLOOD--



--AND NOW
HOLD HE FLAITS
A GREAT BLACK
SWORD--!

ELRIC OF
MELNIBONÉ
AM I--

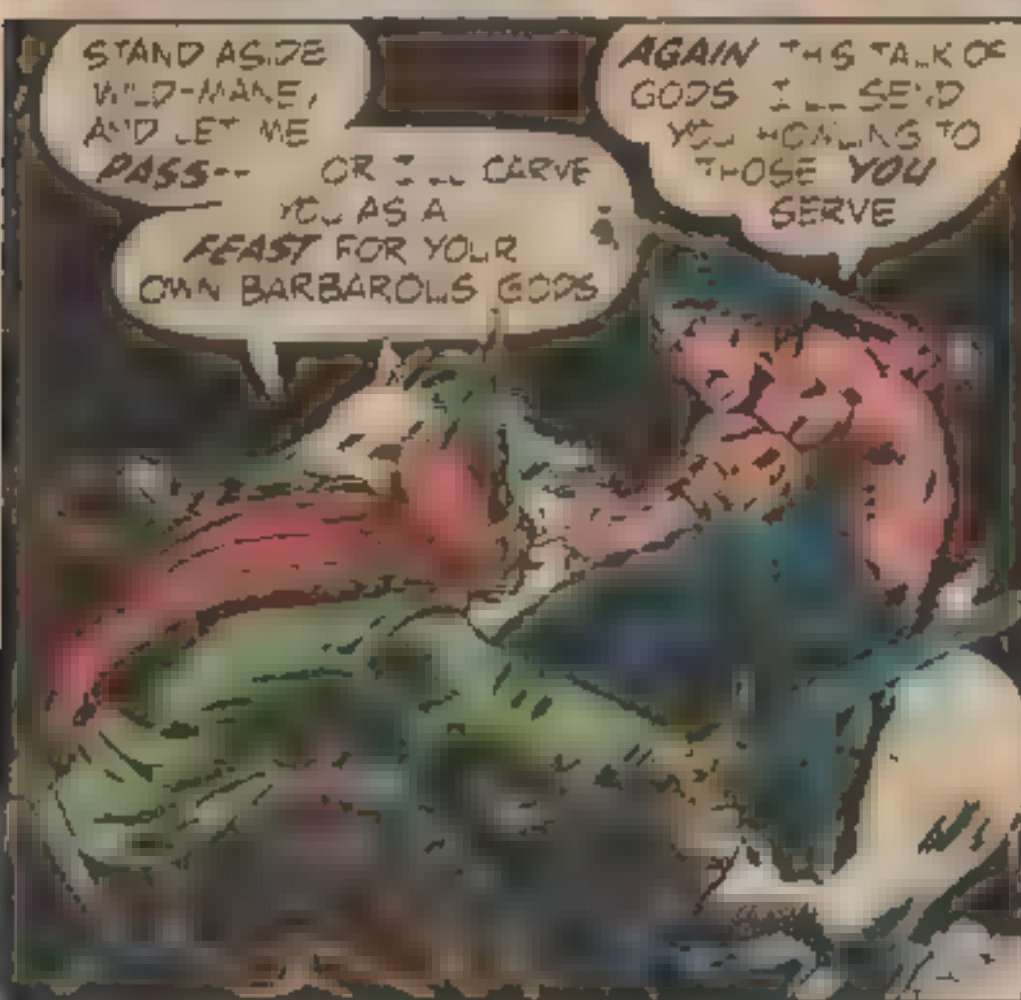
AND
I AM NOT
NO MAN'S
LEAVE!



MELNIBONÉ? THEN SURELY
YOU WERE SENT BY THE
ONE CALLED
XIMBARG, TO
METE OUT THE VEN-
GEANCE PROMISED
BY THE HOODED
ONES.

BY CROW
I--

CONAN--
NO--!



STAND ASIDE
WILD-MAN,
AND LET ME
PASS--

OR I-- CARVE
YOU AS A
FEAST FOR YOUR
OWN BARBAROUS GODS

AGAIN THIS TALK OF
GODS I-- SEND
YOU HOWLING TO
THOSE YOU
SERVE



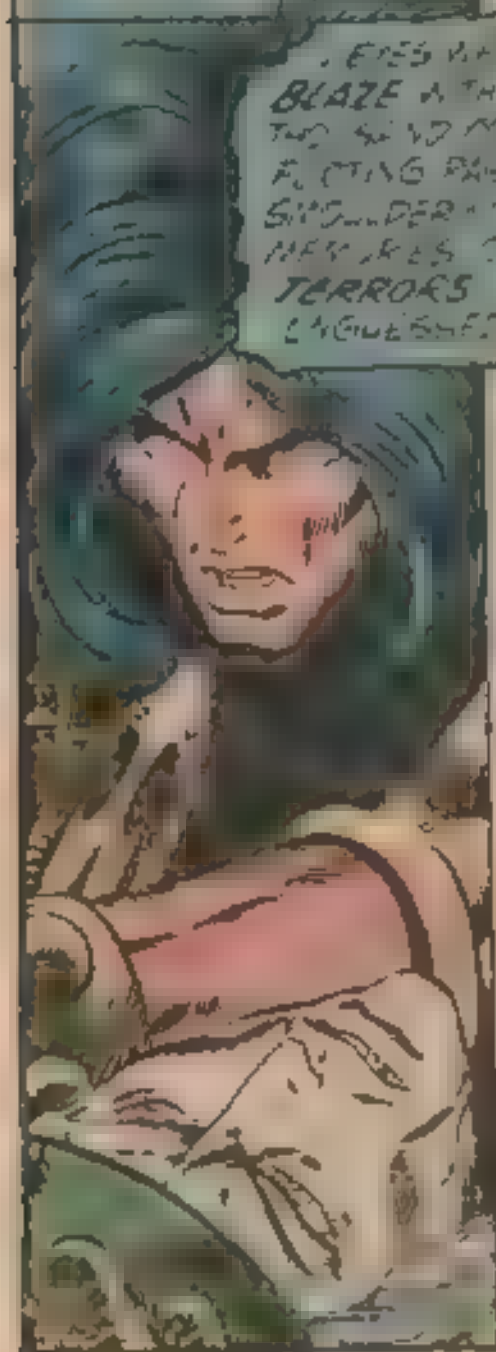
BLASPHEMY!
NO MORTAL MAN
MAY VANQUISH
ELRIC--

--YOUR BLADE OF
STEEL SURVIVE
THE ONSLAUGHT OF
MY OWN--
STORMBRINGER!



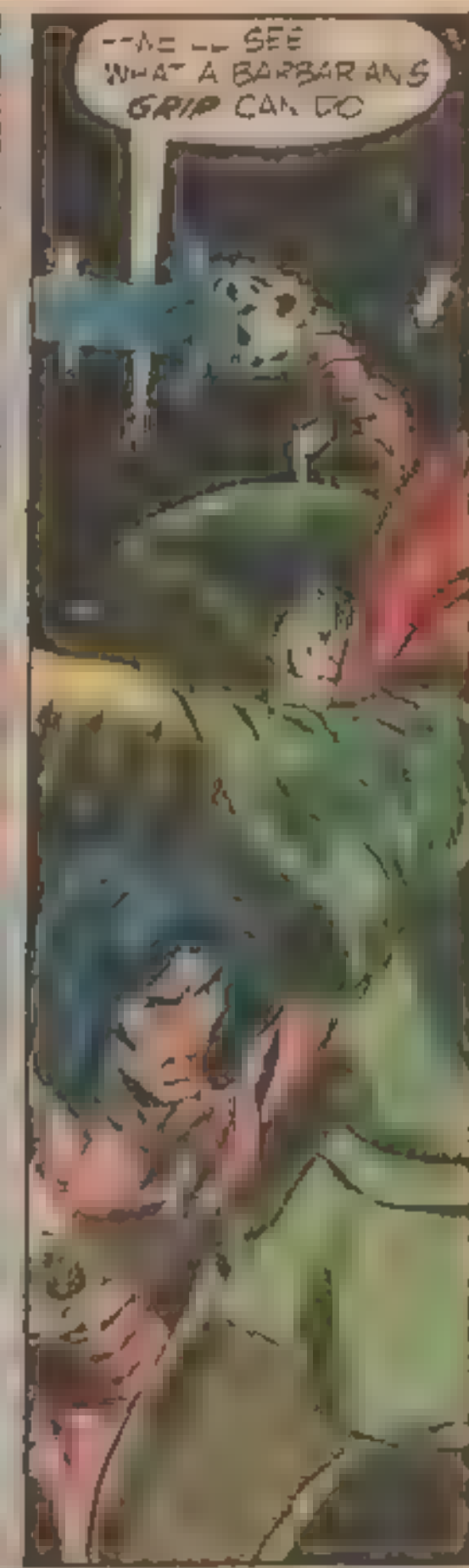
THEY AND THE NEW
TALKING TO THE
CHANCES TO LOVE AND
HIS FLOODING BLOOD-
RED EYES.

AND HIS SHERIDAN IS
THE SHERIDAN HE HESITATES
FOR A SPLIT SECOND



THEY AS - A SHERIDAN'S BLOODS, TWO CLANGS
BRIGHTLY ON THE GREAT DARK BATTLE PLANE
OF THE STRANGER - TWO SHEDDERS OF
STONE-RED HORROR HELL UP WITH HIM..





SILENTLY, SLEEVES TWO BLADES ARE
SLOWLY LOWERED... WHILE GRIM
EYES GLARE AT EACH OTHER
ACROSS A YAWNING ABYSS...

I AM CONAN, A
SUMMERMAN.

YOUR
NAME
WAS,
ELRIC?

ELRIC--SORCERER--
KING OF NEINBOLE--
AND BEFORE YOU
HARM YOUR EYES
BY STARING AT
MY FLESH--

YES I AM AN
ALBINO--
PALE-BLOODED
AND WEAK
OF ARM & D, NOT MY MAGIC
GIVE ME
STRENGTH.

MAGIC--
AND MY GREAT
SWORD
STORMBRINGER.

I THINK HE
MUST SPEAK
TRUTH,
CONAN.

NO
MATTER I
NEVER HEARD
OF HIM.

MY FATHER
LEARNED OF
ONE SUCH,
WHEN HIS
MIND & EYE DID
SOAR
BETWEEN
WORLDS.

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?

I SEEK
THE TOMB OF
ONE OF MY
ANCESTORS...

THE MISTRESS TERNALI, WHOSE SEQUELURE IS
SAID TO BE A "PRACTITIONER OF
SORCEROUS LORE"

LAST NIGHT
I WENT BEYOND
THE ALPINE RIDGES
TO MEET ME CROSS
THE MOUNTAIN MY
WIFE TO YOURS...

AND TO THE SIGHING LAKE
WE BOTH DO PLAINLY SEEK...

ENOUGH. IF THAT'S TRUE
THEN WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY
APPEAR AND THIS GORGE,
AND NOT BY THE LAKE
YOU SEEK?

SOME UNKNOWN
FORCE DIVERTED
MY PATH BE-
TWEEN THE
PLANES--AND
I FOUND MYSELF
HERE, INSTEAD.

YOU STILL
HAVE NOT
TOLD ALL.

WHAT
NEED HAVE
YOU OF STILL
MORE
'SORCEROUS
LORE'?

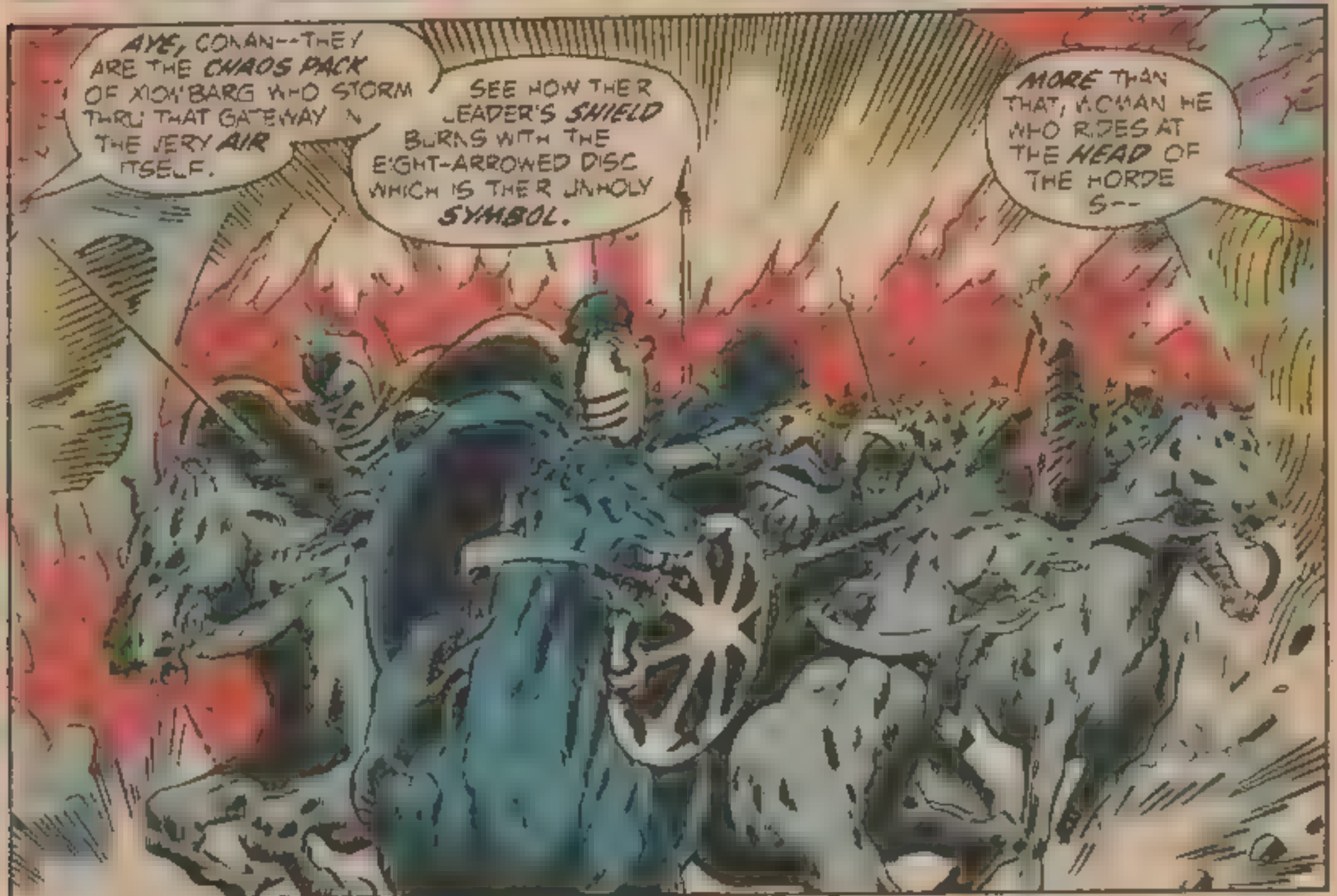
DO NOT SEEK
BARBARAN TO
KNOW ALL THE
SECRETS OF
ELRIC.

I HAVE TOLD
YOU MUCH...
AND IT'S NOT
SUFFICIENT...

IT'S NOT,
THEN--

HOLD THAT
NAG STILL,
ZEPHRA.


BLAME NOT
MY HORSE,
BELOVED LOOK--!



CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

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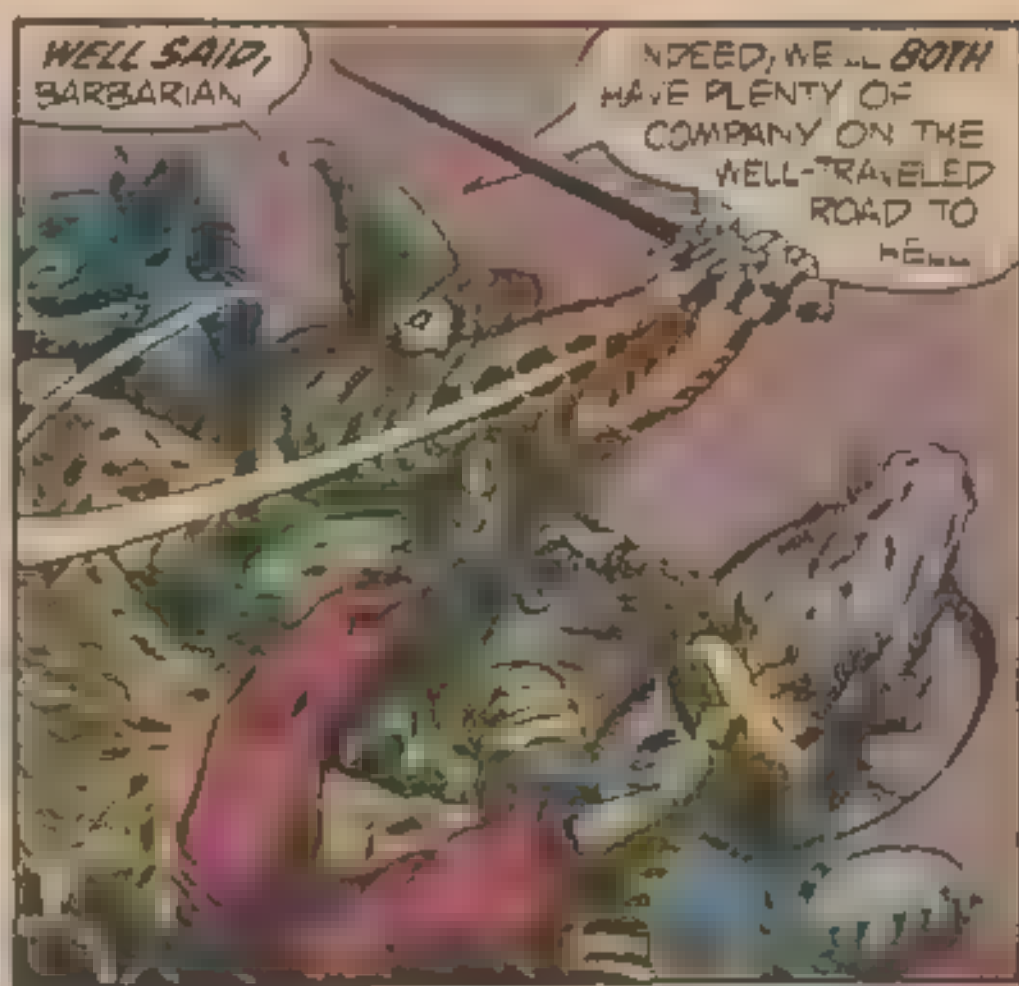
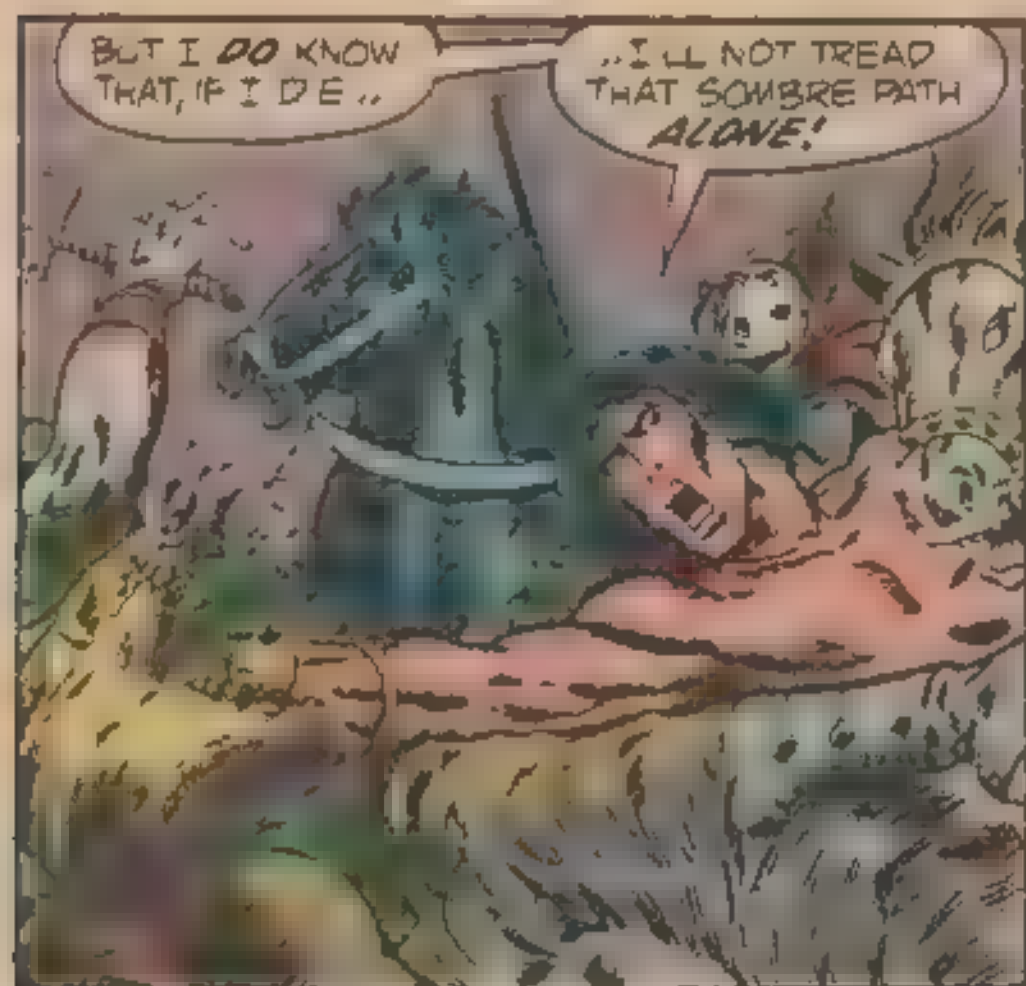
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ON YOUR
GUARD,
ALBINO!

THIS DARK
NIGHT, YOURS
WILL BE THE
DEATH THAT BIDS
MY PASSAGE TO
SWEET OBLIVION.



SEEK
OUT SOME
OTHER FOOL
TO PURCHASE
YOUR FREEDOM,
GAYNOR...

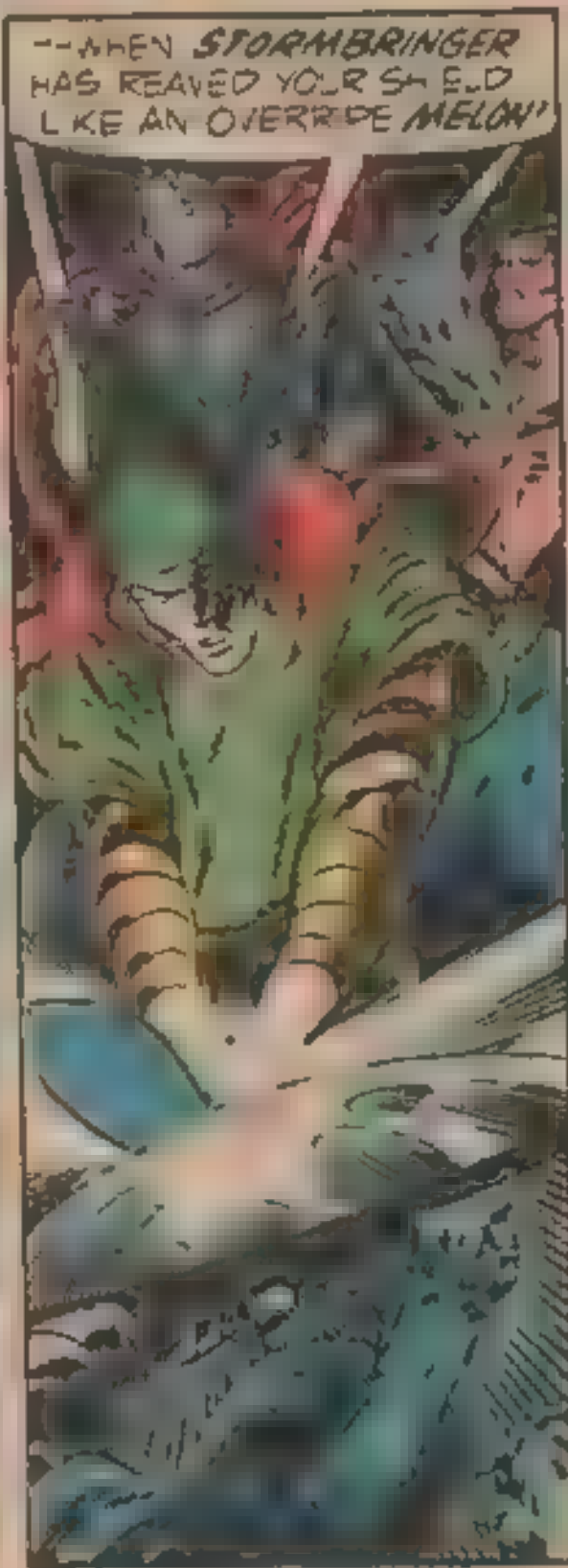


YOU'LL GET NO
HELP FROM ELRIC
OF MELNIBONE!



WHAT? NO
MORE BRIGHT
WORDS, STRUNG
TOGETHER LIKE
PEARLS ON A
GAUDY NECK-
LACE?

PERHAPS YOU'LL
SING A SWEETER
SONG--



--WHEN *STORMBRINGER*
HAS REAVED YOUR SHIELD
LIKE AN OVERRIPE MELON!



WATCH YOUR
BACKSIDE,
PALE-SKIN!

T APPEARS A
BARBARIAN MAY
HAVE HIS USES
AFTER ALL.

I NEVER
DOUBTED IT
WLD-WANE.

NOW, AT LAST, SWORDSMAN AND SORCERER-KING BATTLE BACK TO BACK--IN A MACABRE, MOVING TABLEAU UNMATCHED IN THE TIME-LOST ANNALS OF HEROIC FANTASY--!

CROM'S
BONES,
MAN!

HUMANS,
CONAN--

--WHOSE BEAST-NATURES
ARE SO STRONG THE VERY
FLESH CONFORMS TO
THE VILENESS OF THEIR
SOULS!

WHAT
MANNER OF
FOES ARE
THESE, WHO
LEER AT US
WITH SKILLS
AND FANGS
AND SNOUTS?

FIGHT ON!
FIGHT
ON!

AND FIGHT ON THEY DO--

18
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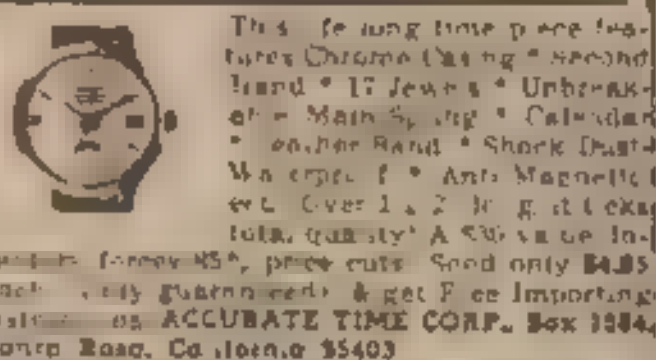
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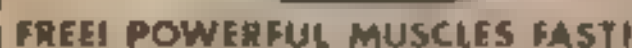
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THE NUMBERS
ARE TOO *UNEVEN*.
THE BATTLE
SOON SHALL
TURN AGAINST
US.

HELP ME, O MY
FATHER ZUKALA,
OR WE ARE
LOST!



HELP ME TO
NVOKE THE NAME
AND SUCCOR
OF *SERUSHA*--



--GODDESS
OF RAIN
AND DRIVING
STORM!



THE GR'L'S A *WONDER*,
E.L.R.C. SHE TALKS TO THE
SKY--AND THE *CLOUDS*
OPEN.

BUT WHAT
GOOD--WILL THAT
DO--US?

YOU SHALL
SEE,
BARBARIAN



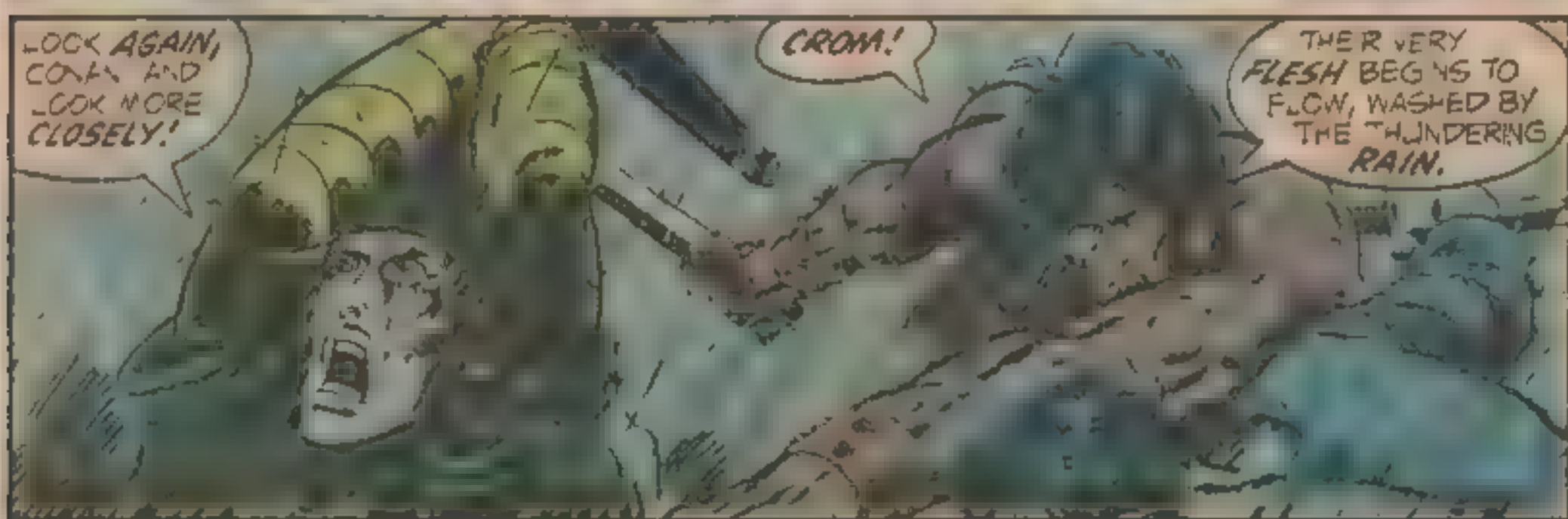
BELIEVE
ME--YOU SHALL
SEE!



WHAT
MADNESS
IS THIS?

A BARE MOMENT
AGO WE WERE
SURROUNDED BY
BESTIAL WARRIORS,
THIRSTING FOR
OUR BLOOD.

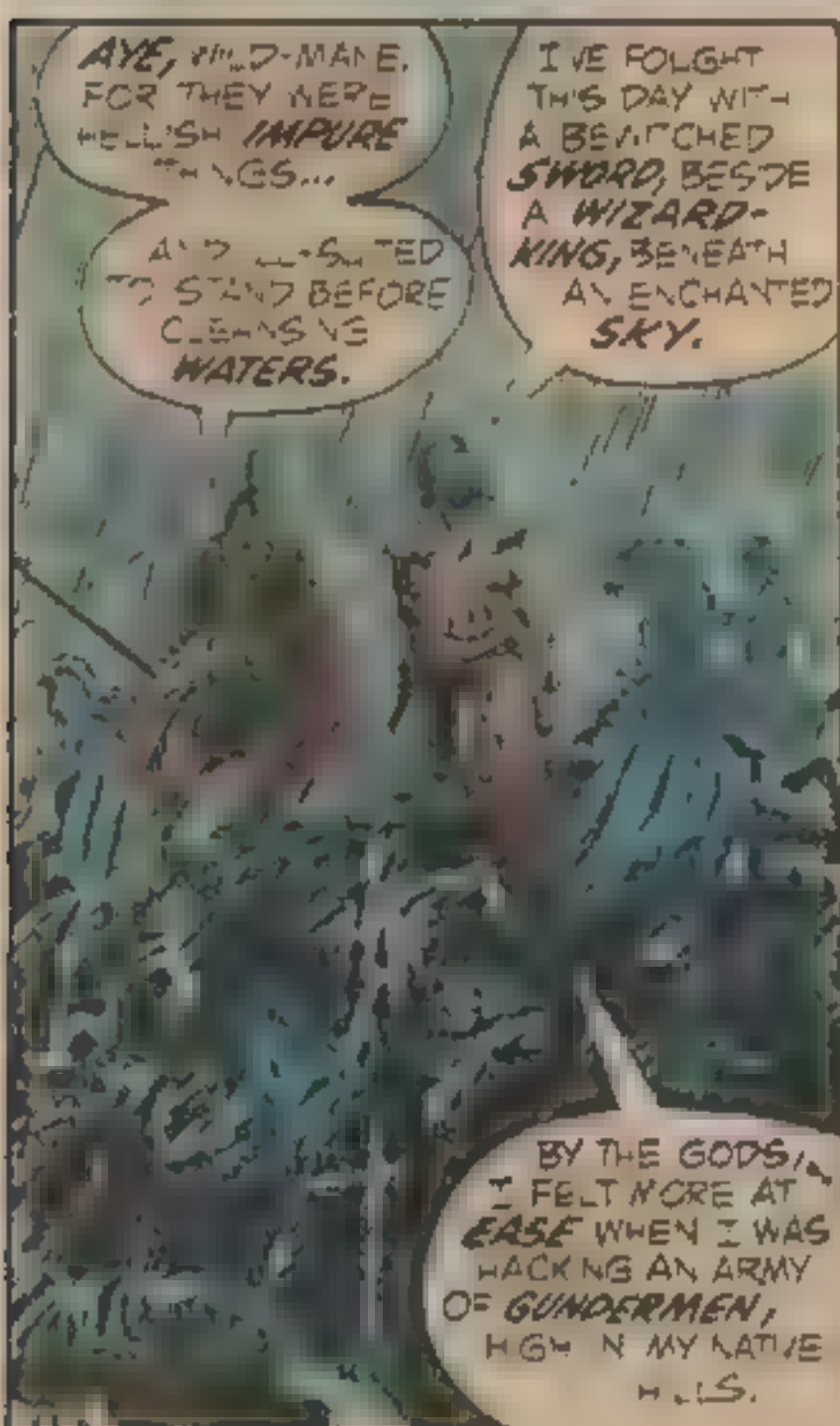
NOW THEY BEGIN
TO *SHRINK AWAY*--
COWED LIKE DOGS
BEFORE A HEAVY
BOOT.



LOOK AGAIN,
CONAN, AND
LOOK MORE
CLOSELY!

CROW!

THEIR VERY
FLESH BEGINS TO
FLOW, WASHED BY
THE THUNDERING
RAIN.



AYE, WILD-MANE,
FOR THEY WERE
HELLISH *IMPURE*
THINGS...

AND SUITED
TO STAND BEFORE
CLEANSING
WATERS.

I'VE FOUGHT
THIS DAY WITH
A BEATCHED
SWORD, BESIDE
A *WIZARD-
KING*, BENEATH
AN ENCHANTED
SKY.

BY THE GODS,
I FELT MORE AT
EASE WHEN I WAS
HACKING AN ARMY
OF *GUNDERMEN*,
HIGH IN MY NATIVE
HILLS.



BUT--HOLD!
THE ONE YOU
CALL *GAYNOR*
TREADS HIS
WAY TO SAFETY
AMONG THE
MELTING
BODIES.

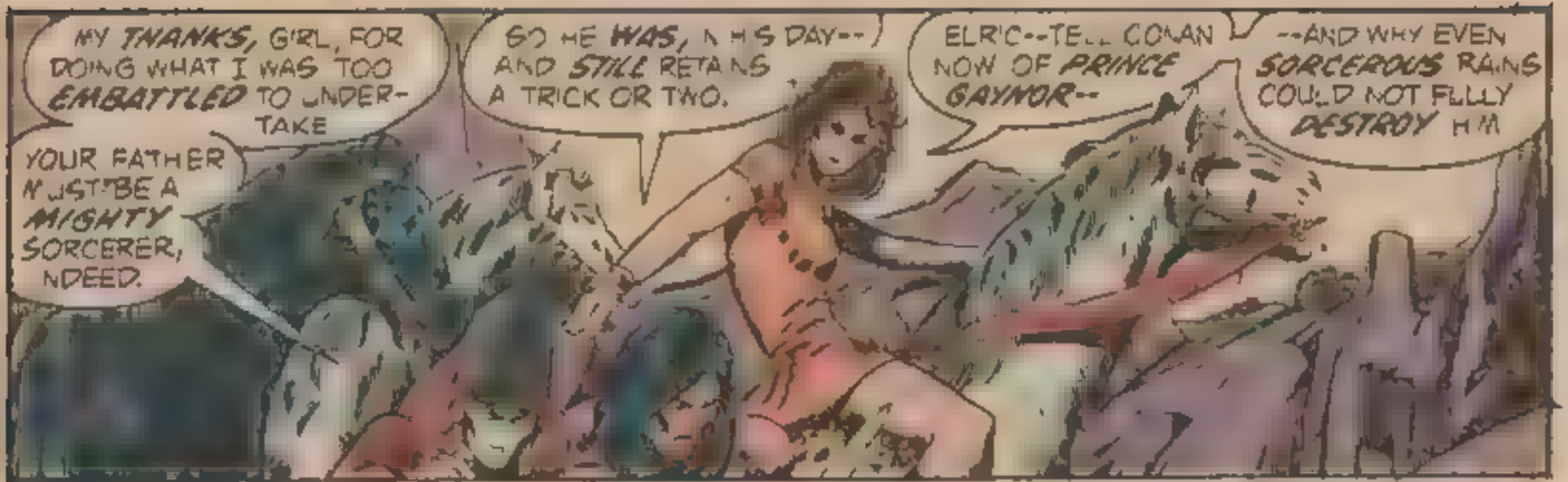
SHOULDN'T
WE *PURSUE*
HIM,
BEFORE?



IT WILL DO
NO GOOD,
CONAN

EVEN THE
CATARACTS SENT
BY *SERUSHA*
WILL NEVER WASH
AWAY THE STAIN
OF *GAYNOR'S*
SOUL.

COME.
I'LL LEAD
YOU BOTH
AWAY
FROM THIS
CARNAGE



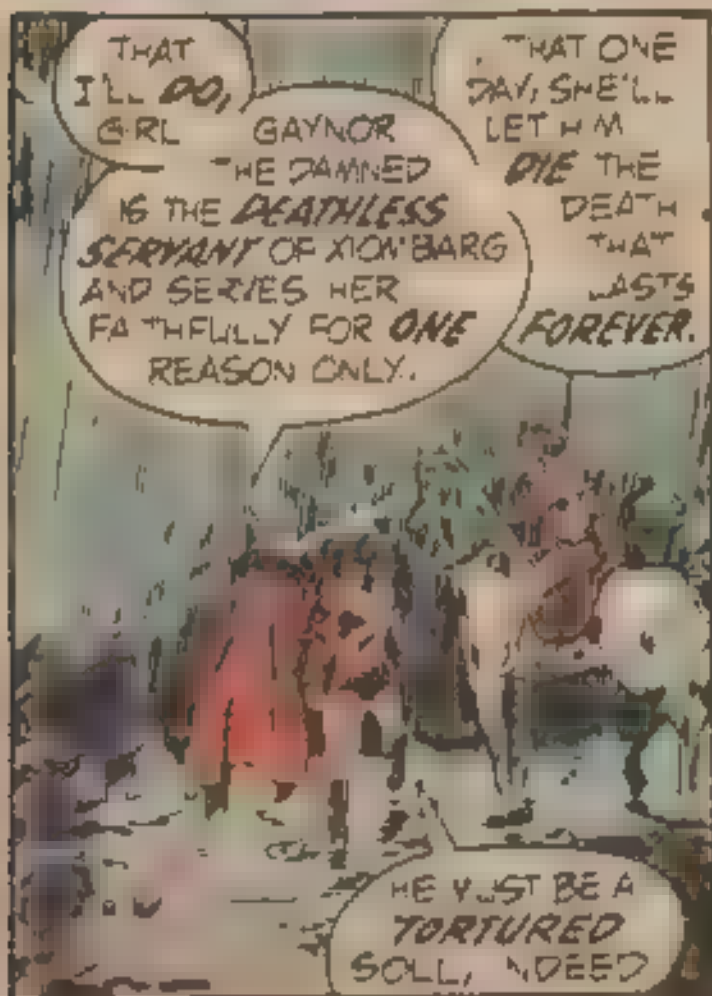
MY THANKS, GIRL, FOR DOING WHAT I WAS TOO EMBATTLED TO UNDERTAKE

YOUR FATHER MUST BE A MIGHTY SORCERER, NDEED.

SO HE WAS, N HIS DAY-- AND STILL RETAINS A TRICK OR TWO.

ELRIC--TELL CONAN NOW OF PRINCE GAYNOR--

--AND WHY EVEN SORCEROUS RAINS COULD NOT FULLY DESTROY HIM



THAT I'LL DO, GIRL

GAYNOR THE DAMNED

IS THE DEATHLESS SERVANT OF XION'BARG AND SERVES HER FAITHFULLY FOR ONE REASON ONLY.

THAT ONE DAY, SHE'LL LET HIM DIE THE DEATH THAT LASTS FOREVER.

HE MUST BE A TORTURED SOUL, NDEED

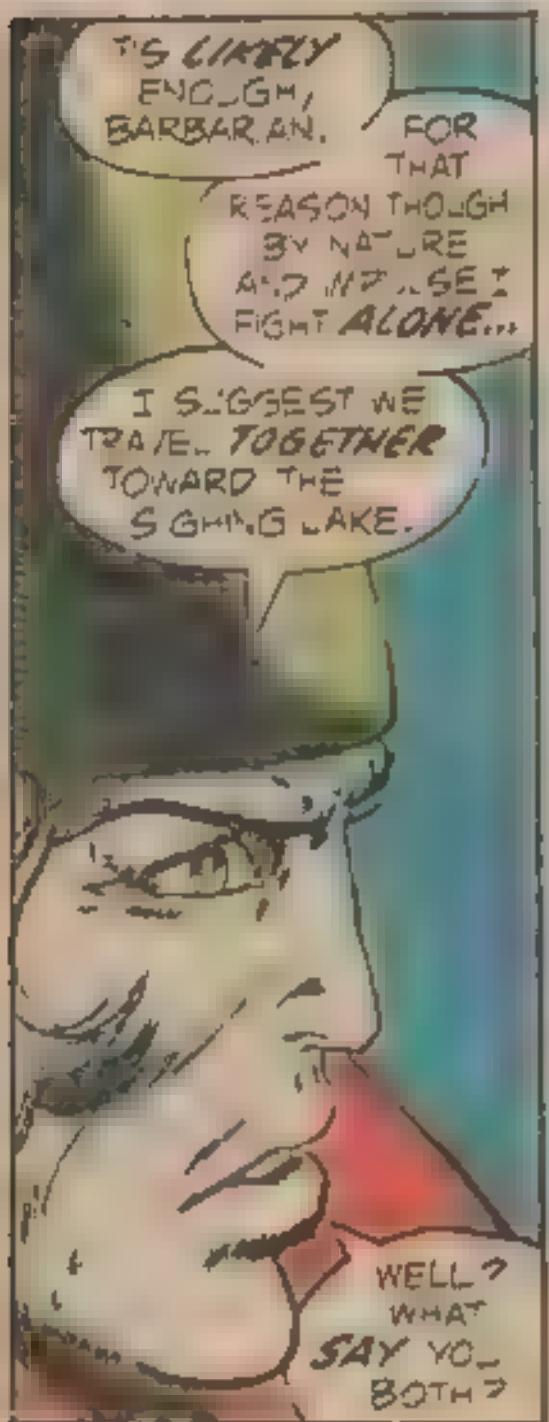


AYE, IT'S NOT CERTAIN THAT EVEN MY EBON STORM-BRINGER COULD--

GAYNOR AND THOSE BEASTLINGS WHO REMAIN--VANISHING AMID A FREE-BOLT

LOOK YOU BOTH-- ON YONDER HILL!

THEN WE'LL MEET HIM AGAIN, YOU THINK?



IT'S LIKELY ENOUGH, BARBARAN.

FOR THAT REASON THOUGH BY NATURE AND NATURE I FIGHT ALONE...

I SUGGEST WE TRAVEL TOGETHER TOWARD THE SIGHING LAKE.

WELL? WHAT SAY YOU BOTH?



EVEN AT THE HEIGHT OF HIS POWERS, MY FATHER ZUKA A WOULD HAVE WELCOMED ELRIC AT HIS SIDE.

I DON'T LIKE THE STINK OF SORCERY IN MY NOSTRILS WHETHER IT STRIKES FOR OR AGAINST ME STILL.

AND YOU, CONAN--?

YES WE'LL RIDE TOGETHER THIS DAY



BUT ONLY WHEN WE REACH THE GOLDEN TOWERS OF YAGALA!

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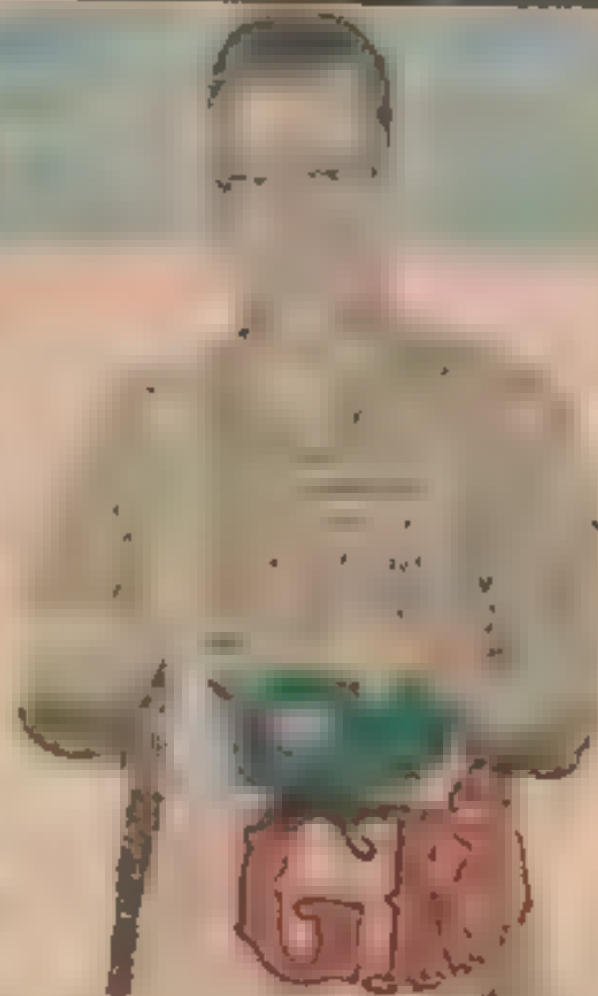
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MIGHTY MARVEL IS BACK ON THE TRACK!

(Or: PLAY IT AGAIN, STAN!)

ITEM! Marvel is makin' it big all over again. The longest, grooviest article ever on the House of Ideas appeared in the September 16, 1971 ish of *Rolling Stone*. (And just in case you've been looting about in the Kree Galaxy for the past several years, we might add that *Rolling Stone* is the best known bi-weekly rock music newspaper in the ever-lovin' world! The whole mag was penned by Rotous ROB N GREEN, who used to be our own Gar Friday before she wandered westward in search of fame, fortune, and a deeper sunken, and it's chock full of queerous quotes by STAN, MARIE, HERB, ROY and just about everybody in the Bullpen. We could quote from it all day and into the night but we figure it pretty much spoke for itself. Suffice it to say that the article generated so much interest that a couple of other writers are already working on follow-up features for the paper. Thanks again, Rob, for reminding one and all that mighty Marvel is still where it's at!

ITEM! Remember last month when TOMB OF DRACULA and WARLOCK burst like bombshells upon an incredulous fandom? Well, just to prove we're not resting on our laurels, we've got no less than three starting new features to toss at you this time. First and foremost, for those myriad minions who've been crying for more of the ever-amazing Spider-Man, we're introducing a brand new mag called MARVEL TEAM-UPS which co-stars the ol' wa-crawler and none other than the Human Torch — and we're kicking off the series with an offbeat Christmas mini-saga to boot! Next, we strongly suggest you pick up the latest issue of AMAZING ADVENTURES where you'll shake hands (if you really wanna) with none other than — the Beast, one of the extraordinary X-Men. But is this truly the Hank McCoy of recent memory or another, far more fearful creature of the night? This one you've gotta see to believe! And, for those stalwarts who've heralded CONAN THE BARBARIAN as the greatest thing going, we've come up with a spectacular new series called Warrior of Mars which debuts in the current ish of CREATURES ON THE LOOSE — where else? But if you think these are something, wait! You dig a couple of wondrous winners we'll be tossing your way in the wee small hours of 1972! Keep facin' front, piggy — cause this is the year when miraculous Marvel really gets it together!

MARVELOUS MINI-ITEMS! Did everybody in the NYC area catch Jazzy JOHNNY ROMITA the other a.m., rapping on LARRY BEAR'S radio talk show on station WABC? Johnny shared biling with three syndicated cartoonists of note — but all the eager souls who telephoned the studio wanted to ask about was Marvel, Marvel, MARVEL. And didja see Happy HERB E. TRIMPE'S

STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX

Hi, culture vipers! This month, I'm gonna try to answer the question which is asked of us more than any other. It's the plaintive, passionate piper: How do I break into the comic book biz? Of course the easiest answer is "Why would you want to?", but I won't cop out that easily. (Mainly because I've still gotta fill this lathering paper column.) So, those of you determined to become comic book artists, face front! First of all, remember that it's one of the toughest fields to enter, because there's a limit to the mags we can publish and we've usually got more than enough artists to go around. So no matter how good you are — even if Michelangelo himself was up for grabs — there'd probably be a wait of months, even years before a strip became available. Also you must be as good or better than the whizzes who are already drawing your favorite strips; otherwise we couldn't inflict you on the quality-oriented ranks of Marvel-dom Assembled. So you ask: "Then how does a beginner get experience?" Only by studying art on your own, by learning composition, anatomy, perspective, etc., until your work is of professional caliber. Obviously, we can only hire pros — artists who've already made their mark in the field of advertising, book illustration, etc. Okay then, once you've made it in some other field of art — once you've proven yourself as a professional — here's the final and most difficult step. Make up a couple of sample pages — drawn in pencil only — using whichever of our characters you prefer, but involving them in an original situation. If you copy any of our own drawings, your samples will be meaningless. We must see how you'd handle a new situation. Use sheets of 10" x 13" 2-ply illustration paper and send us photostats — not the originals, cause we can't be responsible for any loss. If your work is overwhelming, and if a strip is ever available, and if none of our regular artists is free to handle it, you'll eventually hear from us. And if you think that's tough, wait — you see what it takes to be a writer coming up in a future Soapbox!

Excelsior!

Stan

hilarious comic feature in a recent ish of *Esquire*? The heroine was a takeoff on famous writer and women's-liberationist GLORIA STEINHEM, but we still kinda think she bore a suspicious resemblance to the Valkyrie. In HULK #142, Maybe Herb'll fess up, when he gets back from his vacation in Europe, huh? If

any of you have trouble recognizing some of the color-spashed superheroes who make a surprise appearance in this month's AVENGERS, don't sweat it. Some of 'em haven't been in a Marvel (or any other) mag'n over thirty years! Could be we're showing our age!

As a Pig named Porky (and a Forbush named Irving) used to say: "That's all, folks!"

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST

FANTASTIC FOUR #120: They call their mysterious new foe — the Air Walker. Yet wait! If you find out who he really is, it's a shocker!

SPIDER-MAN #106: The web spinner battles to the finish with the Spider-Slayer! But — whose finish? This one's a must!

THOR #196: Who could possibly smash Thor, Odin, and all the hosts of Asgard? No one but — Mangog! With a climax that'll stun you!

AVENGERS #97: At last! The cataclysmic conclusion of the Kree-Skrull War! Plus a special Marvelous guest star!

HULK #149: They call him — The Inferno! And what he carries as his birthright is nothing less than — this planet earth!

CAPT. AMERICA and THE FALCON #147: The Supreme Hydra unmasked! A mystery supervillain revealed! An action bonanza!

DAREDEVIL #84: Mileyah madness as the Man Without Fear battles the power-packed Gladiator — in the deadly skies!

SUB-MARINER #47: Doctor Doom! Modok! The calamitous Cosmic Cube! And Namor — with his memory gone. Suspense plus!

IRON MAN #45: Crisis on campus, as angry students face an Avenger who dares not strike back! And that's just for openers!

CONAN #14: A Sword Called Storm-bringer! The black-maned barbarian battles the warrior-king Elic — and the hordes of Hell!

AMAZING ADVENTURES #11: Presenting the book-busting Beast in a series all his own. But this is a new Beast — a new kind of excitement!

SGT. FURY #96: Nick Fury on the threshold of death! Dum Dum Dugan leads the Howlers into battle. This is the big one!

CREATURES ON THE LOOSE #16: In the timeless tradition of Edgar Rice Burroughs and Robert E. Howard! It's "Gulliver Jones — Warrior of Mars!"

MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #3: A teenager by day — a "Werewolf By Night" by night. Yet, can even a man-beast survive against the steel claw of — Krag?

THE HYBORIAN PAGE

© MARVEL COMICS GROUP, 625 MADISON AVE., NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022

Dear Stan, Roy, and Barry,

It is indeed amazing how Roy and Barry can keep topping themselves with each succeeding issue of CONAN THE BARBARIAN. Number 10 was a masterpiece, if only for the new 25¢ size. The story and art didn't hurt, either!

Roy did an excellent job of elaborating on the hints Howard left at the beginning of his "Rogues in the House," and setting the stage for the adaptation of the main story in the next issue. I hope he did as well with it as he did number 10.

And of course, let's not forget the fabulous artwork by the team of Smith and Buscema. They go together beautifully on this strip, although I'd like to see Tom Palmer ink an entire issue.

But now, the main reason for this letter. King Kull is too good to keep hidden in the back of Conan's book. For some reason, perhaps for the same reason I liked the Sub-Mariner before he became a surface-dweller, I like Kull better than Conan. The close friendship between Kull and Brule the Spear-Slayer simply cannot be brought out in a few pages every other month of so. In other words, give Kull back his own magazine, in king-size form, of course.

Hoy R. Murphy, Jr.

Kayford, West Virginia 25116

Afraid that's a bit out of the question just now, Hoy, since Marvel dropped its entire 25¢ line for the nonce to concentrate on nothing but 20¢ titles. However, this might just be the place to mention that King Kull (or Kull the Conqueror, take your pick) is scheduled to begin a new round of deathless sagas in the forthcoming issue of MONSTERS ON THE PROWL. (And what better place for a hero who started his comic-mag life in the pages of its sister-mag, CREATURES ON THE LOOSE—which itself this month debuts a startling new series entitled "Warrior of Mars"?)

Meanwhile, for those improvident few who haven't traced down the Robert E. Howard source of CONAN #10, 'tis a priceless paragraph in his tale "Rogues in the House," which in turn became the basis of #11. Here's that paragraph, in all its pristine glory:

"There was a priest of Anu whose temple, rising at the fringe of the slum district, was the scene of more than devotions. The priest was fat and full-fed, and he was at once a fence for stolen articles and a spy for the police. He worked a thriving trade both ways, because the district on which he bordered was the Maze, a tangle of muddy, winding alleys and sordid dens, frequented by the boldest thieves in the kingdom. Daring above all were a Gunderman deserter from the mercenaries and a barbaric Cimmerian. Because of the priest of Anu, the Gunderman was taken and hanged in the market square. But the Cimmerian fled, and learning in devious ways of the priest's treachery, he entered the temple of Anu by night and cut off the priest's head. There followed a great turmoil in the city, but search for the killer proved fruitless until a woman betrayed him to the authorities and led a captain of the guard and his squad to the hidden chamber where the barbarian lay drunk."

What Roy and Barry did, of course, was to make that Gunderman into Burgun (from issue #8) and the betraying femme into none other than Jenna . . . who got her comeuppance the next issue. Since none of these characters was named by REH, 'twas simplicity itself. Crom, aren't there any secrets Roy and Barry can keep from curious Conanophiles?

Dear Stan, Roy, Barry, Sai, Sam, Irving, etc., etc.,

I have just finished reading CONAN THE BARBARIAN #10, and although it's kind of late in the game to congratulate you on

such a fine publication, I think I will anyway. Y'see, I just wanted to make sure that every issue would live up to the promise of grandeur hinted at in the first issue.

Well, I needn't have bothered. Didn't it comprise the talents of some of the immortals of comicdom and, most important of all, didn't it have the name "Marvel Comics Group" in the upper left-hand corner? Indeed, the same group that monthly brings us such classics as the FANTASTIC FOUR, SPIDER-MAN, and so on?

Like I said, I needn't have worried, because CONAN is indeed great and soaring to heights of glory that such now-defunct masterpieces as DR. STRANGE and SILVER SURFER might have envied! It is the comic-book of today—and of the future.

Beth Bardossi, 27 Tapper Drive

Hunt Station, N.Y. 11746

What can we say to that, Beth, except that Roy and Barry'll keep trying harder than ever to keep CONAN what it has always been—the most unique comic-mag on today's market. 'Nuff said!

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: Although it was last issue's letters page that dealt with the mountain of missives on CONAN #9, we neglected to mention that that issue's epic—"The Garden of Fear"—was copyright 1945 by William C. Crawford, publisher of the fantasy magazine Witchcraft and Sorcery, whom we belatedly thank for his kind permission to adapt the story into a Conan saga. Incidentally, though we announced last ish that "The Garden of Fear" was currently out of print, 'twould seem that we were wrong—for readers can obtain a booklet which contains that timeless tale, and several other weirdling wonders, by sending the meagre sum of 35¢ to Fantasy Publishing Co., 1855 W. Main St., Alhambra, Calif. 91801. Try it; it's well worth two bits and a dime. And while you're at it, you might ask about a sub to W&S (formerly titled Coven 13) as well; it's the modern-day successor to the Weird Tales pulps which introduced Conan to a breathless world, and who knows but what the canny Mr. Crawford has something just as big up his sleeve? Tell 'em Marvel sent you.

P.S.: Due to Barry Smith's recent British vacation and various other factors, we've had to delay restoring CONAN to monthly publication for another issue or two—but hang in there, friend. The best is yet to come!



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K.O.F. (Keeper Of the Flame)—One who recruits a newcomer to Marvel's rollickin' ranks.
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So adorable



NEW!
LOVELY EVERYDAY
GIFT WRAPPING
ASSORTMENT
14 gay
colorful
large
sheets
Terrific



for selling only 100 boxes of our new Safari Set
All Occasion assortment. You make \$1.00 for selling 1 box,
\$2.00 for 2 boxes, \$10.00 for 10 boxes, etc. You can make
a few dollars or hundreds of dollars. All you do is
call on neighbors, friends and relatives anywhere in your
spare time. Everyone needs and buys Greeting Cards.

Cut out entire Business Reply Coupon below — mail it today
— and we will send you immediately leading Greeting Card box
assortments on approval — plus FREE Catalog of money-making
Greeting Cards and Gifts. No experience necessary.



NEW! SUNNY
SMILES-IN-THE-ROUND
STATIONERY
24 sunshine color
decorated large
round sheets
24 blue envelopes
Latest rage

IT COSTS YOU NOTHING TO TRY

Last year some folks made only \$25 to \$50 while
others made \$150—\$250—\$500 and more selling
our entire line of greeting cards. Many church
groups, organizations, schools, lodges, etc. do this
year after year. Everybody buys greeting cards.

CUT OUT
ENTIRE
BUSINESS
REPLY
ENVELOPE
BELOW
• No Stamp
Necessary

FREE
36 PAGE
FULL COLOR
CATALOG
OF 300
CARD AND
GIFT ITEMS

CUT OUT ENTIRE BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE BELOW, FILL IN COUPON-ENVELOPE, FOLD OVER FIRMLY, SEAL (PASTE OR TAPE) AND MAIL TODAY • No Stamp Necessary

THIS ENTIRE FOLD-OVER COUPON FORMS A NO-POSTAGE-REQUIRED BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE
CHEERFUL CARD COMPANY, Dept. A-3
White Plains, New York 10606

YES, RUSH MY ALL OCCASION CARD SAMPLE KIT

I want to make extra money. Please rush me immediately your Safari Set
All Occasion Greeting Card box assortment and other leading boxes
on approval for 30 day free trial plus FREE 36-page Full Color
Catalog of money-making Gifts and Cards and everything I need to start
making money the day my sales kit arrives. As a Cheerful Dealer I will
also be privileged to receive additional FREE money-making literature,
catalogs, special offers and seasonal samples on approval as they
become available.

Fill in your name and address below — No stamp necessary

Name _____ Apt. No. _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

If writing for an organi-
zation, give its name here

DO NOT CUT HERE JUST FOLD OVER, SEAL AND MAIL THIS ENVELOPE—NO STAMP NECESSARY

Postage
Will be Paid
by
Addressee

No
Postage Stamp
Necessary
If Mailed in the
United States

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL

First Class Permit No. 589, White Plains, New York

CHEERFUL CARD COMPANY

20 Bank Street
White Plains, New York 10606

Dept. A-3